

20010403.qrp v02\_n148.qrl.20010403

Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 19:03:14 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 2148

QRP-L Digest 2148

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [95511] Re: Kite, Antennas and Tyvek  
by Jeff Chambers <k11@micron.net>
- 2) [95512] FOX - Extreme Foxhunt de N5IB  
by n5ib@juno.com
- 3) [95513] "As The Stomach Turns" formerly Re: Walt's big mouth!!!  
by Dave Fouchey <dafouchey@home.com>
- 4) [95514] Xtreme Cub Hunt  
by Fred Lesnick <flesnick@tbaytel.net>
- 5) [95515] HUGE X17 Flare - no joke!  
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 6) [95516] Re: BIG Solar Flare  
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 7) [95517] Re: ATU Design  
by "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
- 8) [95518] Re: Kite, Antennas and Tyvek  
by "John A. Evans - N0HJ" <jae@codenet.net>
- 9) [95519] Harbor Freight Punch Mod and Atlanticon  
by "Chuck Adams, K7Q0" <k7qo@earthlink.net>
- 10) [95520] Re: BIG Solar Flare  
by Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
- 11) [95521] Re: FOX Extreme Fox Hunt  
by Macstein@aol.com
- 12) [95522] Fw: 2001 FIDM Announcement  
by "Tom Dooley" <tdooley@atl.mediaone.net>
- 13) [95523] Re: Harbor Freight Punch Mod and Atlanticon  
by KB7WW Art Moe <kb7ww@chatusa.com>
- 14) [95524] Re: BIG Solar Flare  
by Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 15) [95525] RG400  
by Fran Flynn <fflynn@adelphia.net>
- 16) [95526] Re: BIG Solar Flare  
by "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>
- 17) [95527] Extreme Cub Fox hunt  
by "Glenn Maclean" <glennmaclean@ix.netcom.com>
- 18) [95528] AR Sprint, YES!!!  
by "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>
- 19) [95529] Re: [95380] add "http://" to your 'www' addresses

- by Garie Halstead <k8kfj@ntelos.net>
- 20) [95530] Extreme Cub Fox hunt: N0IT  
by Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 21) [95531] An Example for URL's  
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 22) [95532] [PROP] Flare after effects  
by "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>
- 23) [95533] Re: What kind of AC power receptacle is used in Germany?  
by "Russ Hines" <radioruss@fuse.net>
- 24) [95534] Atlanticon recap, Part 1 -- The Speakers  
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 25) [95535] Atlanticon recap, Part 3 --The "Beacon" Contest  
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 26) [95536] Atlanticon recap, Part 2 -- The "Open Homebrew" Contest  
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 27) [95537] re: Want: Rainbow Tuner  
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 28) [95538] Atlanticon recap, Part 4 - Conclusion  
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 29) [95539] Contest: ARS Spartan Sprint - K7RE  
by Brian Kassel <bkassel@dancris.com>
- 30) [95540] Re: What kind of AC power receptacle is used in Germany?  
by "Kevin Asato" <kevin.k.asato@worldnet.att.net>
- 31) [95541] solder  
by Rick Connors WA7ND <wa7nd@arrl.net>
- 32) [95542] International Travel - power sources  
by K5BDZ@aol.com
- 33) [95543] RE: Atlanticon recap, Part 4 - Conclusion  
by "John L. Sielke" <w2agn@pobox.com>
- 34) [95544] Weller WTCPT on sale @ RS  
by "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>
- 35) [95545] Re: Walt's big mouth!!!  
by Shephed@aol.com
- 36) [95546] Re: solder  
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 37) [95547] RE: solder  
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
- 38) [95548] Re: International Travel - power sources  
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 39) [95549] SMK-1 fix  
by bomc <bomc@goodnet.com>
- 40) [95550] RE: SMK-1 fix  
by "Kanalz, Karl" <Karl.Kanalz@allegiancetelecom.com>
- 41) [95551] Re: [PROP] Flare after effects  
by =?ISO-8859-1?Q?"KB=D8VCC"?= <kb0vcc@yahoo.com>
- 42) [95552] MI QRP Net  
by ed.kwik@delphiauto.com
- 43) [95553] Little Joe Fixed - Sort Of

by "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>  
44) [95554] New PSK-31 30 Meter Transceiver - WARCbler  
by "John Burnley" <JBurnley@ifmc.org>  
45) [95555] addresses needed  
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>  
46) [95556] Which harbor frieght hand punch?? for Manhattan style  
by "Donny Sirait" <dsirait@centrin.net.id>  
47) [95557] K0EVZ = Regular FOX in Xtreme FOX hunt Tuesday  
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
48) [95558] [Elecraft] AR Sprint, YES!!!  
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
49) [95559] Hakko 936 soldering station  
by Maxime Prati <mprati@postech.ca>  
50) [95560] Fox: Look for kv2x!!  
by Thomas Jennings <jennings@shell1.eznet.net>  
51) [95561] RE: Which harbor freight hand punch?? for Manhattan style  
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>  
52) [95562] Spartan Sprint - de AL7FS  
by Jim Larsen AL7FS <al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>  
53) [95563] Arkiecon is this Weekend!!!  
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>  
54) [95564] OT - internet and speed  
by "Dave Marling" <dbm@klis.com>  
55) [95565] Re: OT - internet and speed  
by "Chris" <w4yyz@tampabay.rr.com>  
56) [95566] Curtis 8044 chip  
by Maxime Prati <mprati@postech.ca>  
57) [95567] Spartan Sprint the K1 and my 9 Volt MiMH Battery  
by Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>  
58) [95568] QRP mobile hints  
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
59) [95569] Re: OT - internet and speed  
by Dave Pomeroy <dave\_pomeroy@voyager.net>  
60) [95570] Re: QRP mobile hints  
by Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>  
61) [95571] Update: Digital Pwr meter kit  
by "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
62) [95572] Network coax good IF---  
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
63) [95573] qrp mobile  
by hamjoel@juno.com  
64) [95574] Stealth wire coloring  
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
65) [95575] N7CQR Extreme fox hangup!  
by Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>  
66) [95576] Re: Network coax good IF---  
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>  
67) [95577] Re: Curtis 8044 chip

- by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 68) [95578] Open wire line if installed PROPERLY is balanced, ie no radiation  
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 69) [95579] Re: Stealth wire coloring  
by david gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
- 70) [95580] How to avoid breaking your stealth or dipole wire.  
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 71) [95581] RE: Stealth wire coloring  
by <schoon@amgt.com>
- 72) [95582] FS: K2  
by Dave Pomeroy <dave\_pomeroy@voyager.net>
- 73) [95583] Re: Curtis 8044 chip  
by Paul Dryer <psdryer@ticnet.com>
- 74) [95584] NASA: SUN UNLEASHES RECORD SUPERFLARE (fwd)  
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 75) [95585] Top 10 Solar/Geomagnetic Storms  
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>

---

Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 17:17:15 -0600  
From: Jeff Chambers <k11@micron.net>  
To: mmfancher@earthlink.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95511] Re: Kite, Antennas and Tyvek  
Message-ID: <3AC9087B.ACC61C55@micron.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mark-

I don't know if they still have this, but you might try....

Jeff / KK7MQ

Subject:  
\$20.00 Scott Sled Kite Kit, \$16.00 at Atlanticon  
Date:  
Sat, 17 Mar 2001 13:24:14 -0500  
From:  
"David Porter" <aa3ur@home.com>  
To:  
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

The Scott Sled Kite was made famous to hams by Seab Lyon, AA1MY, and Jay Kolinsky, NE2Q, in the April, 2000 issue of QST. Last year at Atlanticon, he flew his just as I was leaving for dinner on Saturday. It was a beautiful sight. I vowed to make one if I could remember who to contact to get the plans. The plans arrived in the April QST, and I made one.

It was difficult to get a 9' x 10' piece of Tyvek. Many suggested finding a house going up and asking for a sheet (probably a very good way to do it even now). I finally put together a group buy and bought a 150 foot roll of Tyvek, cut it up and mailed it out to 14 people. Now that it is nearly spring it is kite making and flying time again.

So, the New Jersey QRP club has decided to underwrite another group buy of Tyvek. We will offer a sheet of Tyvek 9' x 10' and a set of documentation from the NJQRP Website mailed to your door for a mere \$20.00. However, if you pick it up at Atlanticon, you pay only \$16.00.

If there is enough interest at Atlanticon, we will hold a clinic on making one on either Friday or Saturday. It is easier than it looks!

TO ORDER \$20 mailed to your door or \$16 delivered at Atlanticon. Write a check or M.O. made payable to "George Heron, N2APB" and send to:

George Heron, N2APB  
2419 Feather Mae Court  
Forest Hill, MD 21050

Or use Pay Pal:

People can now order their kits from the NJQRP and pay by using the popular PayPal Webster <http://www.paypal.com>. Just use the name & email address of "George Heron, N2APB", [n2apb@amsat.org](mailto:n2apb@amsat.org) and you'll save yourself the effort of writing a \$20 check and putting the letter into the mail!

David Porter  
aa3ur@home.com  
AA3UR  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 19:29:36 EDT  
From: n5ib@juno.com  
To: qrp-L@Lehigh.edu  
Subject: [95512] FOX - Extreme Foxhunt de N5IB  
Message-ID: <20010402.182922.7871.1.n5ib@juno.com>

Nice doggies... Sit! Stay!

I'll be an Extreme Mardis Gras Fox, now suffering from an Extreme case of Spring Fever. Look for me at the upper end of the range, underneath 7055 or so.

FOX de N5IB        .....        rst LA Jim 5W

And don't forget to hunt me again as a Snipe on Friday's Scout Snipe Hunt  
~~7041 0200-0400. I'll reprise that announcement on Wednesday.

72  
Jim N5IB

-----  
GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!  
Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!  
Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:  
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.  
-----

Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 19:31:33 -0400  
From: Dave Fouchey <dafouchey@home.com>

To: w2agn@pobox.com, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95513] "As The Stomach Turns" formerly Re: Walt's big mouth!!!  
Message-ID: <4.1.20010402193038.0095a220@mail>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

You got a chuckle with that one John!

Dave  
WA4EMR/8

At 04:57 PM 4/2/2001 -0400, John L. Sielke wrote:  
>Stay tuned for tomorrow's episode of "As the Ham Turns." Will Walt respond to  
>Steve? Will someone else respond to Walt or Steve? Does anyone really give a  
>\*\*\*\*? Maybe we should try to merge QRP-L with UPN or FOX? Hey, FOX hunts, I  
>get it now!  
>  
>John W2AGN

-----  
Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 19:35:21 -0400  
From: Fred Lesnick <flesnick@tbaytel.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95514] Xtreme Cub Hunt  
Message-ID: <3AC90CB9.1F5F6B1E@tbaytel.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I will be on from 0100-0300z...I will hide around 7.123.  
Should be interesting and crowded..

Fred  
VE3FAL

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 17:36:34 -0600 (MDT)  
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>  
To: qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca, qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Cc: gqrp@onelist.com, nmqrp@yahoogroups.com, "Prof. Arnaldo Coro Antich"  
<inforhc@ip.etcusa.cu>  
Subject: [95515] HUGE X17 Flare - no joke!  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10104021730001.21462-100000@shell.rt66.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gang,  
This is NOT an April 1st joke.

A HUGE X17.1 solar flare recently occurred, at 2APR 2132-2151UTC.  
SOHO and LASCO images are pending to identify the region of origination, although it was likely region 9393 that has caused all the excitement this past week. Region 9393 is now on the limb of the sun about to rotate out of view, so we will NOT be hit directly from the effects of this flare, but the fringe power of electrons, protons, and later the particle shockwave may hit us.

If I recall correctly, the "grand daddy flare" in 1964 was an X12. So this is uncharted territory.

I'll post details later when the information/prediction on things is released by NOAA.

See <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/today.html>  
Nearly drove the x-ray power off the chart.

Details \*may\* be posted later on the NASA site at:  
<http://www.spaceweather.com>

72, Paul NA5N

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 17:38:36 -0600 (MDT)  
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>  
To: Rod Cercone <n0rc@hotmail.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95516] Re: BIG Solar Flare  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10104021737330.21462-1000000@shell.rt66.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Mon, 2 Apr 2001, Rod Cercone wrote:  
> WOW!  
>  
> Off the "X" scale by one tick mark @ abt 2150z, check it out at:  
>  
> <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/today.html>  
>



>  
> 73, Rod N0RC  
> Ft Collins CO

Just posted my alert, then downloaded the email and saw this.

Thanks Rod for the heads up on this one.

72, Paul NA5N

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 17:23:25 -0700  
From: "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>  
To: "'qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95517] Re: ATU Design  
Message-ID: <C3AF5E329E21D2119C4C00805F6FF58F04B76D87@hq-expo2.filenet.com>

My sincere appreciation to those who responded. A number of good suggestions involved my breadboarding a tuner with the components and clip-leading them together to see how these beasts work -- which, strangely enough, is what I am going to do. If this works maybe a pictorial and write-up is in order.

Thanks to all -- especially Don, K5BDZ -- for the help.

W. H. Phinizy, K6WHP  
Principal Engineer  
FileNET Corporation

-----  
Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 18:36:26 -0600  
From: "John A. Evans - N0HJ" <jaevans@codenet.net>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [95518] Re: Kite, Antennas and Tyvek  
Message-ID: <3AC91B0A.9A1B99F9@codenet.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings,

Other uses for Tyvek include very lightweight groundcloths and footprints for tents when backpacking.

Mark Fancher wrote:

> Does anyone out there have any Tyvek sheeting in 9 ft width?

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 01:30:24 +0100  
From: "Chuck Adams, K7Q0" <k7qo@earthlink.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [95519] Harbor Freight Punch Mod and Atlanticon  
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20010403010004.009fca00@mail.earthlink.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Gang,

Did not get back Sunday night until very late. I remember now one of the reasons why I retired (airlines). It was good to see the group at Atlanticon and George and the NJ group did another fantastic job of setting things up and giving support to a good weekend for all. Take a day off guys and girls.

Someone later after my talk asked me a question about the Harbor Freight punch. They said that they had trouble with the PC material from Radio Shack cracking. And I didn't have an answer at the time.

Well, really I did but I just must have been tired and not thinking. Not an unusual case on my part. :-)

The punch consists of two parts that do the actual punching in metal and other materials. One part I'll call the plunger and the other part I'll call the die or cylindrical part. The plunger/punch has a sharp point in the center of it that is very small. It serves two functions. It marks the center point so that if you are doing critical positioning of holes then you'll know where the exact center is going to be. The second function is to help prevent lateral movement of the material during the punching process.

A cross sectional view of the point may look like

-----/\-----

In making the 3.18mm pads (1/8" for those not doing metric) this point pushes PC board material up against the top side of the board. In the process a large force per unit area is created and you can easily exceed the Young's Modulus of the material and cause it to crack. This crack appears to be an almost straight line through the center of the pad. Is that what the person asking the question saw? If it is, then the solution requires that you take a file and remove the small point in the punch. Do this very carefully and do not file the sides of the punch. I found that this allows me to create a relatively flat pad without the deformation that causes the copper substrate to break. Take the punch part with the point and file it before you put the punch together to use it.

Of course. Realize that this is a permanent mod and do think about what it does to the other things that you may want to do with the punch and that size hole. I use the punch to make circular brass "buttons" from sheet material.

I solder these buttons to AA size NiMH cells for use in Walkman (tm) style players. Some

AA cells have flat contacts for making up battery packs and I want to use them as substitutes for regular AA batteries in the CD players, etc. I want the buttons to be flat so the removal of the point does not have a dire consequence here. These and pads are the only two things that I presently use the punch to do so I'm not worried about the mod that I made.

Sorry to hear that Harbor Freight is shipping fourth class. But they do have to stay in business and you may ask them if they will ship via a faster mode and pass the cost on to you. Don't know if you save anything by doing this, but if you don't have easy access to Harbor Freight you may have no other choice. And it is relatively heavy and first class shipping could cost more than the punch.

One of the problems. This with e-commerce. The mail people have been hit with a reduction in personal mail due to both their increased charge to 34 cents and the massive use of email now. But they won't be going out of business with the increased load due to e-commerce shipping through all the channels available. Of course, we as customers have to pay for this. The business people are certainly not going to pay for shipping out of their own pockets.... Makes sense to me. They do have to stay in business.

FYI es tn timer,

Chuck Adams, K7QO CP-60  
Prescott, AZ k7qo@earthlink.net <http://www.qsl.net/k7qo> <http://moon.pr.erau.edu/~adamsc>

TMPS-2001 Mar 31, 2001 Q's = 408 States = 47 Counties = 325+ DXCC = 13  
SWL-30 with CMOS 3 keyer and HB Iambic Paddle 0.500W and vee-beam

States Needed AK DE VA

DXCC --- K XE VE KH6 V73 HI3 FM5 OH3 C6 ZL1 C08 ZS6 EA8

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 18:49:04 -0700 (MST)  
From: Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>  
To: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95520] Re: BIG Solar Flare  
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.96.1010402184734.4920G-1000000@usr06.primenet.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

What is the potential for auroral activity similar to what we had last Friday? I would like to know ahead of time so that I can travel about 300 miles north to see the event. According to the Sunday paper here, the reddish glow was seen as far south as Mexico City.

Chris

On Mon, 2 Apr 2001, Paul Harden, NA5N wrote:

>  
> On Mon, 2 Apr 2001, Rod Cercone wrote:  
> > WOW!  
> >  
> > Off the "X" scale by one tick mark @ abt 2150z, check it out at:  
> >  
> > <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/today.html>  
> >  
> >  
> > 73, Rod N0RC  
> > Ft Collins CO  
>  
> Just posted my alert, then downloaded the email and saw this.  
>  
> Thanks Rod for the heads up on this one.

>  
> 72, Paul NA5N  
>  
>

```

      ,-----,
    /  What's all this  \
   /  extinct stuff, anyhow?  \
  \  -----,-----  /
   | /
oo\
(--) \
     \  .  .  .
      \  '  '  '
       \  "
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          c__; c__; '---'>.__

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High Performance Mixers and  
Amplifiers for RF Communications

Chris Trask / N7ZWY  
Principal Engineer  
Sonoran Radio Research  
P.O. Box 25240  
Tempe, Arizona 85285-5240

IEEE Member #40274515

Email: [ctrask@primenet.com](mailto:ctrask@primenet.com)  
<http://www.primenet.com/~ctrask>

Graphics by Loek Frederiks

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 22:07:10 EDT  
From: Macstein@aol.com  
To: 70511.3041@compuserve.com  
Cc: QRP-L@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [95521] Re: FOX Extreme Fox Hunt  
Message-ID: <e5.42f42ad.27fa8a4e@aol.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 4/2/2001 4:56:44 PM Eastern Daylight Time,  
70511.3041@compuserve.com writes:

> Mac:  
>  
> Oops!--I accidentally included your call in the list I sent to the  
> reflector a short while ago. Nuts. Anyway, hope you can bag lots of the  
> FOXes anyway.  
>  
> 72,

> --Doc/K0EVZ

NO PROBLEM DOC!!!! I'll be there, I just may be a few mins late!!!! I'm  
HAPPY to do this!

-MAC-  
AF4PS

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 22:31:52 -0400  
From: "Tom Dooley" <tdooley@atl.mediaone.net>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95522] Fw: 2001 FDIM Announcement  
Message-ID: <014c01c0bbe6\$3ef6ae80\$53225818@atl.mediaone.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="Windows-1252"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

Below is a resend of the 2001 FDIM Announcement. With Atlanticon complete and Arkiecon about to happen, I have been waiting to pitch the FDIM event without interfering with these other great events. Congratulations to the NJQRP Club for a successful Atlanticon and to the Fort Smith Area Amateur Radio Club for an expected homerun (sorry, baseball season starts!) this weekend.

There has been some changes to the speakers so, for the latest information on the FDIM event, please visit the QRP ARCI web site.  
<http://www.qrparci.org/>. You can even register and pay with PayPal!

I especially wanted to remind everyone about the Youth Involvement Challenge: QRPyouth (QRPy). Please visit the web page for the scoop and enter the design contest for QRPy. What a great idea and what a great investment in our future!

FDIM will be the premier event with the Dayton Hamvention, so please make your plans and I look forward to seeing many of you there!

72 de K4TJD Tom

----- Original Message -----

From: "Tom Dooley" <tdooley@atl.mediaone.net>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2001 19:36 PM

Subject: 2001 FDIM Announcement

Please mark your calendars and make your arrangements to attend the QRP premier event of the year, the Four Days in May (FDIM), scheduled for May 17, 18, 19 and 20, 2001 at the Dayton Hamvention. For a more detailed explanation of this year's event and a view of the several past FDIM events, please visit the QRP ARCI web site <http://www.qrparci.org/> and click on the FDIM-Dayton link. Last year, nearly 400 QRP enthusiasts participated in the FDIM 2000 event. Make sure that YOU are part of FDIM 2001!

Summary: For those who are not familiar with the FDIM event, this event is held one day in advance of the three day Dayton Hamvention. This is the reason for the name, FDIM, as we add a fourth day to the Dayton event to provide a special day just for QRP seminars and get togethers/socials. The FDIM does not conflict with any of the daytime Dayton Hamvention events, while providing QRPers two additional evenings of QRP vendor displays, QRP building/design & display events, a special QRP banquet and opportunities to meet many of our fellow QRP enthusiasts face to face. You gotta come and feel the power of QRP!

Registration: All registration information is on the QRP ARCI web site <http://www.qrparci.org/> plus this year you can pay with PayPal!

Hotel: The official motel for all QRP activities is the Ramada Inn Dayton Mall which was previously the Days Inn South Dayton. Send email to our room coordinator, Hank Kohl, [k8dd@arrl.net](mailto:k8dd@arrl.net), if you want to be on the list. The rate is \$74.00 per night, not bad for Dayton this weekend of the year.

Changes from last year: For those who are familiar with FDIM, the most significant change is that the QRP banquet has been moved to Saturday night. We have had many requests for this change plus we always wanted this night. Scheduling conflicts with the hotel previously prevented us from holding the Banquet on Saturday night. This will allow a more relaxed Vendor Night on Friday. Now you won't have to rush from the Hamvention site when it closes (you don't leave until you are forced to, do you?) to make the banquet and then hurry down to the Vendor displays.

Overview: Here is a brief rundown on the FDIM event:

Thursday - May 17, 2001:

QRP Symposium: 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM - Contribution \$15.00

So far the topics include:

"Two element Beams", L B Cebik, W4RNL (cebuk@cebik.com)  
"SMT construction", George Dobbs, G3RJV (g3rjv@gqrp.com)  
"Interference to Hams", Ed Hare, W1RFI (w1rfi@arrl.org)  
"PSK". George Heron, N2APB (n2apb@erols.com)  
"QRP in DL Land", Peter Zenker, DL2FI (DL2FI@online.com)

Several other very interesting presentations are being planned so keep looking for additional postings here, as well as QRP-F and the QRP ARCI web site. <http://www.qrparci.org/>

Thursday Evening - May 17, 2001:

Author Social: 7:00 PM until 11:00 PM - No Charge

A chance to meet and talk with the QRP Symposium Speakers.

Friday Evening - May 18, 2001:

Vendor Social, starting at 8:30 PM - No Charge

This evening is set up to allow the QRP vendors to display, demonstrate and discuss their products and latest offerings with YOU, their target audience. You get a better chance to talk to the Vendors without the other 29,000 Amateur Radio Enthusiasts!

Saturday Evening - May 19, 2001:

QRP ARCI Awards Banquet - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM - \$25.00 per ticket

The annual QRP ARCI Awards Banquet honors QRPers who have made major contributions to QRP and Amateur Radio. We will have a special speaker and announce the winners of the various "build it contests". We will hand out fabulous quality and quantity of door prizes as well as have lots of fun!

Later Saturday Evening - May 19, 2001:

Displays PLUS the Radio Show: 9:00 PM (after the Banquet) until ??? - No Charge

This provides QRPers time to socialize and view the displays of the Building and Design contest entries and winners. Plus, you can display and show off your projects and collections at the Radio Show!

For the latest on the building and design contests, please visit the QRP ARCI web site. <http://www.qrparci.org/>

Whew, can you believe the amount of activities planned? If you have been before, you know that you must come again. If you have not made it to FDIM in the past, this is a "Have to Attend" type of event. You will not be disappointed. Please continue to monitor this list, QRP-F and the QRP ARCI web site <http://www.qrparci.org/> for additional updates and details.



-----  
Date: Tue, 01 Apr 2008 18:31:27 -0800  
From: KB7WW Art Moe <kb7ww@chatusa.com>  
To: k7qo@earthlink.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95523] Re: Harbor Freight Punch Mod and Atlanticon  
Message-ID: <47F2EFFF.E0A6999C@chatusa.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Chuck and the gang,

When punching metal, do your layout work, then prick punch where the hole is to go, follow that with a small center punch. Then use the point on the the punch by holding the point in the C/P dimple as you close the punch. With this method you can do very accurate work.

Art

KB7WW

"Chuck Adams, K7Q0" wrote:

>

> Gang,

>

>

The plunger/punch has a sharp  
> point in the center of it that is very small. It serves two functions.  
> It marks the center point so that if you are doing critical positioning  
> of holes then you'll know where the exact center is going to be. The  
> second function is to help prevent lateral movement of the material during  
> the punching process.

>

> A cross sectional view of the point may look like

>

> -----/\-----

>

> In making the 3.18mm pads (1/8" for those not doing metric) this point  
> pushes PC board material up against the top side of the board. In  
> the process a large force per unit area is created and you can easily  
> exceed the Young's Modulus of the material and cause it to crack.  
> This crack appears to be an almost straight line through the center of the pad.  
> Is that what the person asking the question saw? If it is, then the  
> solution requires that you take a file and remove the small point  
> in the punch. Do this very carefully and do not file the sides of  
> the punch. I found that this allows me to create a relatively flat  
> pad without the deformation that causes the copper substrate to break.  
> Take the punch part with the point and file it before you put the punch  
> together to use it.  
>  
> Of course. Realize that this is a permanent mod and do think about what  
> it does to the other things that you may want to do with the punch  
> and that size hole. I use the punch to make circular brass "buttons" from sheet  
material.  
> I solder these buttons to AA size NiMH cells for use in Walkman (tm) style  
players. Some  
> AA cells have flat contacts for making up battery packs and I want to use them  
> as substitutes for regular AA batteries in the CD players, etc. I want  
> the buttons to be flat so the removal of the point does not have a dire  
> consequence here. These and pads are the only two things that I presently use  
the  
> punch to do so I'm not worried about the mod that I made.  
>  
> Sorry to hear that Harbor Freight is shipping fourth class. But they  
> do have to stay in business and you may ask them if they will ship  
> via a faster mode and pass the cost on to you. Don't know if you  
> save anything by doing this, but if you don't have easy access to  
> Harbor Freight you may have no other choice. And it is relatively  
> heavy and first class shipping could cost more than the punch.  
>  
> One of the problems. This with e-commerce. The mail people have  
> been hit with a reduction in personal mail due to both their increased  
> charge to 34 cents and the massive use of email now. But they won't  
> be going out of business with the increased load due to e-commerce  
> shipping through all the channels available. Of course, we as customers  
> have to pay for this. The business people are certainly not going to  
> pay for shipping out of their own pockets.... Makes sense to me. They do  
> have to stay in business.  
>  
> FYI es tnx,  
>  
> Chuck Adams, K7QO CP-60  
> Prescott, AZ k7qo@earthlink.net <http://www.qsl.net/k7qo> <http://moon.pr.erau.edu/~adamsc>  
>

> TMPS-2001 Mar 31, 2001 Q's = 408 States = 47 Counties = 325+ DXCC = 13  
> SWL-30 with CMOS 3 keyer and HB Iambic Paddle 0.500W and vee-beam  
>  
> States Needed AK DE VA  
>  
> DXCC --- K XE VE KH6 V73 HI3 FM5 OH3 C6 ZL1 C08 ZS6 EA8

-----  
Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 21:38:33 -0500  
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>  
To: ctrask@primenet.com  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95524] Re: BIG Solar Flare  
Message-ID: <3AC937A8.7D32FE50@swbell.net>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Chris Trask wrote:

>  
> What is the potential for auroral activity similar to what we had  
> last Friday? I would like to know ahead of time so that I can travel  
> about 300 miles north to see the event. According to the Sunday paper  
> here, the reddish glow was seen as far south as Mexico City.

Chris, if the X17 flare was to hit earth directly like the X flare that occurred last Wednesday, then the likelihood would be close to 100%. However, its probably just going to glance us, so the likelihood is much less.

NOAA provides daily probability predictions of aurora at both high and mid latitudes. Beyond that, keep an eye (or ear) on WWV. If you start seeing a SERIES of K values SIX OR HIGHTER, head for your car. Obviously to be visible, the aurora needs to occur at night and the weather at your destination must be clear. But otherwise, what else do you have to do late at night? The HF bands will be dead.

Personally, I tend to doubt report of seeing the aurora at Mexico City unless it was viewed from 30,000 feet. To get aurora down as low as Missouri, EM-48, it takes a K of at least six, more likely seven. I would think for Northern Arizona it would take at least as much.

73 de Dave, N0IT

-----  
Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 22:19:19 -0400

From: Fran Flynn <fflynn@adelphia.net>  
To: qrp-l Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95525] RG400  
Message-ID: <3AC93327.30FF01DC@adelphia.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I don't know what the markings mean.

10baseT is for twisted pair UTP, it's more likely 10base2,  
if so then it's 50 ohm coax, if it has BNC's it's probably thinnet.  
I'd use it for HF QRP. It might be better suited for Qrp than Qro.

>Has anyone had any experience with RG400 coax? It came from a 10baseT  
>computer network. Markings on the cable:  
>  
>M17/128-rg400 MIL-c-17g  
>  
>This cable is made by Thermax. I found several websites with some info  
>on the cable...but dont find any attenuation data. The Thermax site  
>shows 10.5 db/100' at 400 MHz. I'm wondering about for HF use.

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 21:11:00 -0600  
From: "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>  
To: <sjolin@swbell.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>,  
"Chris Trask" <ctrask@primenet.com>  
Subject: [95526] Re: BIG Solar Flare  
Message-ID: <OE71N6M0Lz2DnIEZg1T00009708@hotmail.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dave & Chris:

----- Original Message -----

From: "Dave Sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2001 08:38 PM  
Subject: Re: BIG Solar Flare

> Chris Trask wrote:

> >

> > What is the potential for auroral activity similar to what

we had

> > last Friday? I would like to know ahead of time so that I can travel

> > about 300 miles north to see the event. According to the Sunday paper

> > here, the reddish glow was seen as far south as Mexico City.

>

> Chris, if the X17 flare was to hit earth directly like the X flare that

> occurred last Wednesday, then the likelihood would be close to 100%.

> However, its probably just going to glance us, so the likelihood is much

> less.

>

The flare itself does not cause aurora, it causes a radiation storm that can "black out" HF propagation in varying degrees, for up to several hours. If the flare activity results in a CME the particulate matter ejected, upon impacting Earth's magnetic field, causes aurora. The particulate matter arrives 2-3 days after a flare/CME event. BUT--that matter must be headed our way. Many times a CME goes off in another direction and does not effect us. That appears to be the case with a CME associated with this flare.

73, Rod NØRC  
Ft Collins CO

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 20:21:46 -0700  
From: "Glenn Maclean" <glennmaclean@ix.netcom.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95527] Extreme Cub Fox hunt  
Message-ID: <011901c0bbbed\$378e74a0\$6401a8c0@mindspring.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi my name is Glenn WA7SPY in Sacramento, CA  
I will be one of the Cub Foxes tomorrow night 01:00 - 03:00 UCT for the Extreme Cub Fox Hunt. Look for me some where between 7.100-7.150. The only difference this time will be please zero beat on my transmit freq. I will use my RIT some but not very much. The usual exchange will be:

Call	RST	State/Province	Name	Power
------	-----	----------------	------	-------

I will give your call at the beginning and end of the exchange to avoid any

confusion as to who I am answering.

I will be using my K2 at 5 watts into my Carolina Windom 40 at 55 feet. I will have my K1 on as a back up rig. If California should have a rolling blackout I have the battery in the K2 all charged up and ready to go.

Should be an interesting night  
Glenn WA7SPY

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 21:46:26 -0600  
From: "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, <elecraft@qth.net>  
Subject: [95528] AR Sprint, YES!!!  
Message-ID: <0E524yp8ARf3s1lNY3000009044@hotmail.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

Thanks one and all for a great time. I've been away from ARS Sprints for about a year because of my work sked, but I changed jobs and can play again! ;-)

46 QSOs for my return effort, not bad considering the X17 flare event earlier in the day. 20m was best 41 Qs, 40m was noisy only 5 Qs, and I had to walk away from a few. Most rewarding was getting to work Dean, KH6B in HI on 20m, near the end, and W9FN in IN running only 200mw on 20m right at the end. Had to dig for those!

To those I didn't work, couldn't work sorry, let's give it a try same time next month.

Setup here was my trusty K2 #286 @5W into my attic dipole. (Folks, if your going to QRP contest, then you just gotta have a K2!)

Thanks one and all for a great return to ARS Sprinting: K0EVZ, AF4PS, K7TQ, N5IB, WA4DOU, K7RE, N7RVD and a bunch of other familiar calls--TNX.

73, Rod N0RC  
Ft Collins CO

-----

Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 03:37:33 +0000  
From: Garie Halstead <k8kfj@ntelos.net>  
To: Jim Lyons <lyons@canada.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95529] Re: [95380] add "http://" to your 'www' addresses  
Message-ID: <3AC8FF2D.F2459FE0@ntelos.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

On Monday, 02 April 2001, Jim Lyons wrote:

> Because that won't work for all of us! As a courtesy please add the  
> Http://

Understood Jim and duly noted.

73/72 //Gary \*K8KFJ\*

-----  
Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 22:43:46 -0500  
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>  
To: Qrp-1 Reflector <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95530] Extreme Cub Fox hunt: N0IT  
Message-ID: <3AC946F2.11EA443C@swbell.net>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

N0IT will also be one of the Cub Foxes tomorrow night 01:00 - 03:00 UTC  
for the Extreme Cub Fox Hunt. Look for me some where between  
7.100-7.150. Please zero beat on my transmit freq. I will use my RIT  
some but not very much.

See you all tomorrow.  
73 de Dave, N0IT

-----  
Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 22:56:34 -0500  
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [95531] An Example for URL's  
Message-ID: <3AC949F2.79B9DB5F@att.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hopefully as a near final word on this "http" business:

I am using Netscape 4.76 running under Windows ME.

Following are three versions of the same URL:

www.arrrl.org

<www.arrrl.org>

http://www.arrrl.org

You can see which style results in a link to the site. I try to make a practice of always typing in the "http://" so that readers will have the convenience of a link.

It is true in Netscape that "http://" is *not* required when entering a URL in the browser - the program takes care of that part for you. But, it seems to be required when typing a URL in an email. Maybe later versions of Netscape have changed this.

--

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe  
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!  
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina #91900556 IC-765 #02437

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 22:00:03 -0600  
From: "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95532] [PROP] Flare after effects  
Message-ID: <OE30QgeDKvPEkGhAj5p000084e1@hotmail.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

Look at the D layer absorption graph at:

[http://www.sel.noaa.gov/rt\\_plots/dregion.html](http://www.sel.noaa.gov/rt_plots/dregion.html)



Notice the bar chart on the right. Normally frequencies beyond 5Mhz are not affected. Now even 15m has about 2db attenuation!

73, Rod N0RC  
Ft Collins CO

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 00:12:26 -0400  
From: "Russ Hines" <radioruss@fuse.net>  
To: <marsgal42@hotmail.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95533] Re: What kind of AC power receptacle is used in Germany?  
Message-ID: <00b101c0bbf4\$4b7be900\$ce2717d8@rbhines>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Oooh, stick to French. ;-)

73,  
Russ Hines  
WB8ZCC  
radioruss@fuse.net  
wb8zcc@one.net  
wb8zcc@arrl.net  
<http://home.fuse.net/radioruss>

----- Original Message -----=20  
From: laura halliday <marsgal42@hotmail.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2001 6:46 PM  
Subject: Re: What kind of AC power receptacle is used in Germany?

> Thomas AC7A wrote:

>=20

> >In May, I am traveling to Germany and plan to take my K2  
> >along. I've purchased one of the Elpac, 12-volt switching  
> >supplies from All Electronics. It is usable with AC mains of  
> >85 to 250 volts. The question I have is what kind of wall  
> >receptacle is used in Germany? Since the supply uses a  
> >detachable power cord, I'd like to assemble one before I  
> >leave.

>=20

> Digi Key p/n Q135-ND.

>=20

> This is the sort of thing I'd pick up when I got there.  
> That way I'd be absolutely sure to get what I needed.  
> It's probably cheaper to pick it up there too.  
>=20  
> It doesn't hurt to have something light-duty to do that  
> first jet-lagged-zombie day anyway. My last trip to Germany  
> I took my resume with me as a PostScript file on a floppy  
> disc and spent the first day wandering around Krefeld  
> (suburban Duesseldorf) finding somebody who could print  
> it for me, run off some copies, and who wouldn't laugh  
> too hard at my shocking excuse for German..."Hier habe  
> ich die PostScript Dateien..."  
>=20  
> Laura Halliday VE7LDH "Que les nuages soient notre  
> Grid: CN89mg pied a terre..."  
> ICBM: 49 15.042 N 122 59.053 W - Hospital/Shafte  
>=20  
> =

-----=  
> Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at =  
<http://www.hotmail.com>.  
>=20  
>=20  
>=20

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 22:42:35 -0400  
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Cc: "EPAQRP" <epaqrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "NJQRP" <NJQRP@njqrp.org>  
Subject: [95534] Atlanticon recap, Part 1 -- The Speakers  
Message-ID: <002f01c0bbf7\$09c5ad40\$9759accf@ghlpt4>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
 charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Atlanticon 2001 was the best ever!

Well, I may be a little prejudiced in that comment <g>, but that's been the resounding flavor of comments coming from attendees departing this third year happening of the Atlanticon QRP Forum.

We had about 135 QRPers attending from up and down the eastern seaboard,

with a number of folks traveling as far as from Ontario, Canada and across the country from California. And of course, two of our speakers came all the way from Great Britain!

For the benefit of everyone who attended, for the enjoyment of those who were not able to make it this year, and for those newcomer QRPers among this list membership who haven't yet experienced the thrill of attending a major QRP weekend, I'd like to recap the weekend activities. Since there's so much to tell, I'll do so in a number of "parts". This first installment concerns the illustrious speakers and their intriguing presentations during the 8 hours of QRP-related seminars on Saturday.

#### THE SPEAKERS

We had a wonderful mix of speakers and topics that provided a well-rounded course of QRP for everyone's enjoyment.

On the technical side, Joe Everhart, N2CX gave us a good healthy dose of basic engineering principles needed to design and build a microvolt signal source. There's more to it than just haphazardly putting together some resistive dividers, as we all now know. And the construction of a specialized, rf-tight enclosure plays a big part in the success.

Also quite the technical presentation was the one from Jim Kortge, K8IQY. Jim walked us through the design evolution of his 4017 Transverter ... a great story of design goals, trade-offs and ultimate construction realization of his particular dream. As Jim says, the idea pops up one day and the design twists, turns and evolves sometimes into something completely different than the original goal.

Fabulous "operating-related" presentations were delivered by Rich Arland, K7SZ and Ron Polityka, WB3AAL. Rich spun a story replete with great photos that were at times both hilarious and super informative. I'll tell you folks, we have such a great advocate and friend in this QRP'er!

WB3AAL specifically homed in on his Appalachian Trail adventures and gave us all some ideas and challenges for getting out the field. Ron is one of those guys that just *\*lives\** for operating outdoors!

Steve Ford, WB8IMY is the managing editor of QST, and he brought a story of "PSK31 Operating" to the Atlanticon audience that was lively, current and enthralling. Steve had previously made a recording on CDRom of a bunch of PSK31 activity on 20m and played it back to the audience using his computer projected up to a big screen on the wall. Everyone got a chance to come up, poke around and ask questions with Steve -- what's this, how do you do that, is this a good signal, etc.

Partway between "technical" and "operating" was the fabulous opening

presentation of "the Brits": Tony Fishpool, G4GIF and Graham Firth, G3MFJ. If you haven't seen/heard these guys in action before, you have no idea of the entertaining and knowledgeable story they present concerning simple circuits that can be built for operating, experimenting, measuring and calibrating. Their handouts (contained in the Proceedings) are a collectors dream for circuit ideas. I think everyone in the audience was itching to get up and build some of the circuits by the time that they finished their tag-team style presentation.

Also part way between "technical and "operating" was the always-entertaining stories from Chuck Adams, K7QO. Chuck shared many of his secrets concerning homebrewing "a la Manhattan-style" and the many, many references that his vast experience has accumulated over the years. Chuck is one of those guys that can tell 15 stories in the course of one breath, and the audience sure let us know their appreciation throughout the rest of the day.

The "piece de resistance" of the speaker line up was the appearance of Dave Benson, NN1G. During the course of March, Dave had been in the throes of closing on a new home up in Connecticut and getting the current 50-year-old house ready for sale. So it had become increasingly doubtful of his ability to have the time to prepare for and attend Atlanticon this year, despite best opportune intentions. Well, this QRP Hall of Famer made the 10 hour drive down to see us anyway, arriving mid afternoon and in time to speak for a bit at the conclusion of the talks. In addition to relating his photos and plans for the new home (which includes a nice big room for his Small Wonder Labs), Dave hosted discussion concerning "Taking the Warbler to Other Bands", and gave the audience some interesting insight to such possibilities. Notably, a serendipitous crystal was discussed that would be appropriate for 30m operation ... is there a PSK-30 in the near future Dave? :-)

We so very much appreciate each of these speakers and the effort they made in coming to Atlanticon and sharing with all of us QRPers! And especially want to thank the guys who came from very far away (Chuck, Jim, Graham and Tony), as we all know how much of an effort it is to travel like that.

Those who are able to tell the rest of us about the glories of the QRP experience; the excitement of building and operating; and the thrill of experimenting with radio circuits -- these are the guys we thank from the bottom of hearts for helping to make QRP more than just a hobby. I certainly feel this way and I think you do too.

END PART 1

73, George N2APB  
n2apb@amsat.org  
for the NJQRP Club at <http://www.njqrp.org>

PS: For the full story, plus a growing list of photos recapping fun, excitement and QRP-heaven of the Atlanticon weekend, please visit <http://www.njqrp.org/atlanticon>

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 00:11:30 -0400  
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Cc: "EPAQRP" <epaqrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "NJQRP" <NJQRP@njqr.org>  
Subject: [95535] Atlanticon recap, Part 3 --The "Beacon" Contest  
Message-ID: <003101c0bbf7\$0cd425c0\$9759accf@ghlpt4>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

(This is a continuation post concerning the fun activities had by over 135 QRPers at the recent Atlanticon QRP Forum.)

SATURDAY EVENING CONTEST #2:  
"PSK31 Beacon Contest"

Following the Open Homebrew competition and judging, we conducted the much heralded (and with much trepidation) "PSK31 Audio Beacon" contest.

As a quick backgrounder, we supplied in advance of the weekend a "kit" to all Atlanticon-registered folks, with the intention that they would build the kit and it would be judged and operated there at the weekend. This year's kit was a single-chip generator of PSK31-encoded audio data streams ... the PSK31 Audio Beacon. After constructing the Manhattan-style kit, all one need to do was add a 9V battery and a speaker to spew out a pre-recorded string that announced their callsign, a code word and their email address. When done in the presence of a DigiPan running on a laptop with a built-in microphone, the beacon signal could be displayed on the waterfall and decoded to the text box above on the screen.

Although we got the kit into folks' mailboxes only a week or two before the QRP weekend, there were over 40 Manhattan-style beacons completed and ready to warble that Saturday night. The idea was that they would first be judged for quality and innovative construction, just like the projects in the Open category.

There was an incredible variety of clever approaches to constructing the beacons. From rotating lighthouses and birdcage designs, to Manhattan boards and pads made in the shape of the State of Maine, the entries were just outstanding!

Then came the "operating" part of the contest. Sort of like a "Fox Hunt", all 40 QRPers grabbed their PSK Beacons and lined up behind a table with NN1G and N2CX manning a laptop computer running DigiPan. The rules were somewhat flexible, in that one could use any kind of speaker, resonant cavity, directional cone, etc .. and believe me, there was a variety of them all present.

At the announcement of "Gentlemen, start your beacons!" all bedlam broke out as 40 cacophonous PSK31 audio beacon signals wafted through the still night of that unsuspecting hotel. My ears are still ringing from it! For 20 minutes, Joe and Dave clicked and "copied" beacon-after-beacon on the computer screen, which was projected up to a large screen on the wall for all to see. Once one had noticed that his beacon had been successfully copied, he turned it off and stepped back.

Ultimately all beacons were copied, but not all were copied right away and few had "perfect" copy. There were over-driven signals, overlapping signals, weak signals, off-frequency signals ... "just like in a normal DX pile-up," said Joe N2CX.

This exercise illustrated several points to us all ... the fun of operating narrow-band PSK31, and the dangers of overmodulating in this digital mode.

The combined score of "construction quality" and "operating effectiveness" determined the winners of the Beacon Contest:

1) John Cawthorne, KE3S, took first prize this time for his beautiful construction job and for being one of the earliest and cleanest signals to be copied. John received a first place prize of a PSK-20 Transceiver, donated by Dave Benson, NN1G of Small Wonder Labs. (Be sure to take a look at the photo of KE3S in action during the contest, as he had a large wooden-cased speaker and he sported some hefty ear protection!)

2) Mike Korejwo captured second prize with his superb construction and next-in-line signal to be received. Mike has been participating with the NJQRP meetings since last Fall, and has built a beautiful 4017 Transceiver Kit (among other rigs), yet he doesn't yet have his amateur license! He's "getting to it as work schedule allows," says Mike. Now here's a dedicated homebrewer! Mike took home a PSK-40 Transceiver as his second place prize, donated by Dave Benson, NN1G of Small Wonder Labs.

3) Honorable Mentions went to "KB2TQX-a" and "KB2TQX-b". Christine and

Marcus are the 10-year-old harmonics of Dave Gwillim, KB2TQX, and they each built a version of the Beacon in a plugboard arrangement ... and independently got them working! The Gwillim kids were real pleased to each take home an Atlanticon 1999 yellow "FB40" T-shirt.

The Beacon contest was the first ever of its kind and we believe was an unqualified success! Each contestant (and every attendee, for that matter) will be able to connect his Beacon to an SSB transceiver (with attention paid to applying the correct, low-level audio signals to the mic input) and put his PSK31 beacon on the air. Pretty neat for a 1-chip circuit!

But perhaps more so than getting a working beacon out of the deal, many contestants mentioned the fact that this was their first Manhattan-style construction project, or their first homebrew project ever! They commented on the surprising ease of the construction and how they really had nothing to be intimidated about. Again, pretty eye-opening!

Congratulations to the winners and all contestants!

END PART 3

73, George N2APB  
n2apb@amsat.org  
for the NJQRP Club at <http://www.njqrp.org>

PS: For the full story, plus a growing list of photos recapping the fun, excitement and QRP-heaven of the Atlanticon weekend, please visit <http://www.njqrp.org/atlanticon>

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 23:31:40 -0400  
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Cc: "NJQRP" <NJQRP@njqr.org>, "EPAQRP" <epaqrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95536] Atlanticon recap, Part 2 -- The "Open Homebrew" Contest  
Message-ID: <003001c0bbf7\$0b6e7b40\$9759accf@ghlpt4>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

(This is a continuation post concerning the fun activities had by over 135

QRPers at the recent Atlanticon QRP Forum.)

SATURDAY EVENING CONTEST #1:  
"OPEN HOMEBREWING"

The second major event came along on Saturday evening (i.e., after the QRP presentations during the day) .. the building contest and the Beacon contest.

As is the case with many of the QRP weekends held around the country throughout the year, Atlanticon sports a "building contest" on Saturday evening. QRPers bring their recently-constructed homebrew rigs (commercial kits too) and other projects to these contests in order to show them off and to be judged by a couple of the resident expert speakers at the Forum.

People can (and do!) bring just about every project imaginable ... from transceivers, to antennas, to oscilloscopes, to keys and paddles ... no holds are barred! The way the evening goes is that QRPers start arriving at 7:30 pm and get their projects placed out along the many tables in the large hall we're in. Throughout the early part of the evening, everyone walks around and looks at the gear, all the while asking questions, oooh'ing and aah'ing over it all, basically getting different ideas for their own project when they return home.

The judging for the "open category" this year was done by the incomparable Jim Kortge, K8IQY and Chuck Adams, K7Q0. This dynamic duo had been duking it out leading up to the weekend in the NorCal-sponsored , and online-chronicled "Iowa QRP-10" Manhattan-style construction project. Each of these pillars in our QRP community has numerous homebrewing accomplishments under his belt and their own construction quality is "par excellence" ... so their critical eyes were just right for determining the winners here at Atlanticon.

Winners in the Open Category were ...

1) Larry Przyborowski, K3PEG, for his outstanding Manhattan-style construction job with the "4017 Transverter". This was truly a work of art, replete with highly-polished copper pc material base board, and nicely-angled wires and cables with connectors. Larry received an EMTECH NW-40 Transceiver Kit for this first place prize winning, donated by the NJQRP Club.

2) John Cawthorne, KE3S, for his Whitman mint-tin sampler collection of circuits. John's work is renowned within the NJQRP circles, as he brings project-after-project to our monthly club meetings, and each one knocks our collective socks off with his attention to detail. John received a second place prize of an "MP-1" portable antenna, donated by Vern Wright, W6MMA of SuperAntennas. (Vern tossed in all the "options" which include a tripod, a



VHF collapsible element, an FT-817 side-mount bracket, and a 75m loading coil. Wow!

3) John Stratton, AA3SL, for his construction of a NorCal "BLT" Tuner Kit. John is a high school student to whom Doug Hendricks, KI6DS had given the BLT Kit at last year's Dayton Hamvention. John clearly was disappointed at not being able to show Doug the result of his work, but we assured him that Doug would most definitely see it! John received his 3rd place prize of the ARRL Antenna Handbook, donated by ARRL HQ through Rich Arland, K7SZ. [Established this weekend, the NJQRP is working with John and his dad Joe W3JBS on a large-scale "regen" project for a pack of Boy Scouts at his school this summer.]

There were many, many interesting projects presented for judging in the Open category ... check out the website for photos on most of them.

END PART 2

73, George N2APB  
n2apb@amsat.org  
for the NJQRP Club at <http://www.njqrp.org>

PS: For the full story, plus a growing list of photos recapping the fun, excitement and QRP-heaven of the Atlanticon weekend, please visit <http://www.njqrp.org/atlanticon>

-----  
Date: Mon, 2 Apr 2001 19:45:55 -0400  
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Cc: "EPAQRP" <epaqrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "NJQRP" <NJQRP@njqr.org>  
Subject: [95537] re: Want: Rainbow Tuner  
Message-ID: <002e01c0bbf7\$07ad5490\$9759accf@ghlpt4>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The original Rainbow Tuner Kit is a retired NJQRP project from several years

back, as you probably know. But we've found a resurgence of interest and application in the SWR bridge portion of the circuit that will be causing a comeback, of sorts.

Besides QRers being interested in the neat and colorful 4-LED display of SWR, the circuit's "absorptive design" make it just IDEAL for antenna adjustments in three modern scenarios that I personally experience:

- 1) An in-line SWR bridge for use with my SuperAntennas MP-1 portable antenna when taken on biz trips;
- 2) An in-line SWR bridge for my truck-mounted Screwdriver antenna; and
- 3) An in-line SWR bridge for my portable St. Louis Quickie antenna when I go to the park and A-Trail for field operating.

In each of these cases, the tuning procedure is to adjust the antenna loading coil for minimum SWR, thus getting a good match for my transceiver.

I've taken a left-over Rainbow Tuner pcb from the NJQRP scrap pile, sawed off the "tuner" portion (was actually the space for the mica compression trimmer cap and the toroid inductor forming the resonant circuit tank), and mounted the resultant 1"x1" board in a small metal case.

I put BNC connectors on each end of the box (connectors labeled "guzinta" and "guzotta"). I then put the 4 colorful mini-LEDs on the faceplate. And lastly, I put a small toggle switch that flips the SWR bridge in/out of the circuit.

Now, whenever I need to adjust the antenna, I flip the bridge into the circuit and key down while adjusting the antenna-du-jour for the minimum illumination of LEDs on the front panel. And I can do this safely for an extended period of time because of the absorptive nature of the bridge. (It presents a 50-ohm load to the transmitter while reading the reflected signal coming from the antenna.) Once the minimum LED reading is achieved, I flip the bridge out of the circuit and I'm in business with my K2, Sierra and now the FT-817 (my favorite portable rig :-)

Of course any absorptive SWR bridge/meter/LED can do the same job, but I happen to be partial to the clever and pretty N2CX-design. (I think NorCal had it as an article in QRPP for Winter '97, and you can still see project details on our website [http://www.njqrp.org/Rainbow/rb\\_home.html](http://www.njqrp.org/Rainbow/rb_home.html)). My 8-year old daughter just loves helping me tune up by watching for the higher LEDs to extinguish when I adjust the antenna.

Now here's the deal ... we'll be bringing the Rainbow Tuner circuit board out of retirement and selling it at near-cost, including a manual that specifies the parts list, assembly instructions and an updated section on

applications (like the ones I described here.) All the homebrewer needs to do is to obtain the commonly-available parts and populate the board per the instructions.

(We \*may\* supply the parts too, but frankly, the NJQRP kitting teams are pretty pooped from Atlanticon and from the continuing big effort on keeping the flow of Warblers coming.)

The Rainbow Tuner pc boards will be ordered this month and we'll let folks know the ordering details. In the meantime, let us know your interest, or if you have other novel uses of the circuit. (For example, I've put similar chopped-up Rainbow into my Z-Match Tuner, thus providing a splendid little colorful display of LEDs that indicates tuning.)

73, George N2APB  
n2apb@amsat.org  
for the NJQRP Club at <http://www.njqrp.org>

=====  
I'm looking to purchase a Rainbow tuner if anyone might have one, preferably one that is unbuilt (I know, it's a stretch but worth asking). Would anyone have one? Also, I haven't checked, but are PC boards available from someplace?

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 00:30:35 -0400  
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Cc: "NJQRP" <NJQRP@njqr.org>, "EPAQRP" <epaqrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95538] Atlanticon recap, Part 4 - Conclusion  
Message-ID: <003201c0bbf7\$0e8dbca0\$9759accf@ghlpt4>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This is the final posting concerning the fun activities had by over 135 QRPers at the recent Atlanticon QRP Forum.)

#### PART 4: ODDS & ENDINGS

##### SPECIAL AWARDS

At last year's Atlanticon we started a tradition of presenting a "Most Outstanding Contribution to QRP Award" to the individual who has most

influenced QRPers and ham radio enthusiasts in general throughout the year.

This year we were very pleased to give the award and plaque to DAVE BENSON, NN1G. His plaque reads: "For innovative and pioneering design of simple, low-cost PSK31 transceivers for the Amateur Radio community. Your dedication to the technology and contribution to the New Jersey QRP Club has been instrumental in bringing the PSK31 communications mode to thousands of hams worldwide."

Thank you Dave and congratulations!

#### DOOR PRIZE DONORS

A sincere "Thank you very much!" goes out to all supporters for their door prize contributions. These little gestures (and in some cases Big ones), make it ever so enjoyable for the QRPers in attendance.

North Virginia QRP Club -- Autek Research RF Analyst  
Paddlette -- PK-1 Paddle with Knee Pad  
American Radio QRP Key Mfg Co -- Little Red Keys  
Small Wonder Labs -- PSK-xx Transceivers  
NJQRP Club -- EMTECH kits, FT-817, MP-1, Squirt, Warbler, 4017 Kit,  
Kanga USA -- OXO and ONER Kits  
EPAQRP Club -- QRP Calendars  
Rich Arland -- QRP books  
ARRL HQ -- QRP Books  
Greg Johnson Book Co -- FIDM Proceedings  
SuperAntennas -- MP-1 with all options  
NorCal -- SMK-1 Transceiver, Toroid Kit  
Rex Harper W1REX -- QRP tins and proto boards  
Kevin Glynn, N2TO -- Astron Power Supply

Thank you all!

#### ATLANTICON STAFFERS

A weekend like this doesn't just happen. It takes many individuals, in a coordinated fashion, to put on a show of this magnitude, and I must say that the NJQRP members who served in staff capacity this weekend were just superb!

Rich Arland, K7SZ, who only just recently become an official NJQRPer, served in a major way this year as our Master of Ceremonies. Rich graciously off-loaded me from the consuming job of introducing each speaker and presenting the speaker plaques after each presentation, thus allowing me to tend to the other continuous stream of details during the conference. Rich provided such an enjoyable patter and added a dimension to the all-day seminar activities for which I am so grateful. Many of the attendees commented very positively about Rich's role. Thanks!

Dave Porter, AA3UR headed up the "silent crew" that made everything else happen behind the scenes. Dave has been stepping up his role in the club over the last 6-12 months, and now has the title of "Atlanticon Pit Boss" on his badge. Being the major "go to guy" and handler of logistics, table selections, and hotel liaison, Dave assigned and coordinated the other staff members to make the weekend go smoothly! Thanks Dave!

Another staffer who played an instrumental role was Al Owen, WA3OWT. Al picked up the "beacon kit captainship" and orchestrated all the programming activity for those receiving their kits anew, or for those wishing to have their beacon strings modified. Hustling around each evening, often accompanied by his buddy Mike Korejwo, Al was helping others get their beacons built, programming their microcontrollers and helping with general logistics.

Other staffers included: Michael Bower, N4NMR; Ed Lyon N2LRR; John DeGood, NU3E; Ed Roswell, K2MGM; Mike Korejwo, Joe Everhart, N2CX; John Cawthorne, KE3S; Ken Newman, N2CQ; and Howard Weinstein, K3HW.

Everyone in attendance thanks you for your help in making the weekend happen!

UNTIL NEXT TIME ...

Ordinarily I'd say "Gee, I can't wait for next year's QRP weekend to roll around!" However this time the wait isn't that long at all. The Fort Smith QRP gang is conducting "Arkicon" next weekend and it's looking to be just as exciting as this past weekend's Atlanticon. These regional QRP forums are spaced out through the spring, summer and fall such that no matter where you are in the country, you'll be near one of these major QRP events.

There are many little things that happen throughout the weekend -- each of which makes the weekend an even more memorable event for the attendees. Not the least of which is the camaraderie felt. There aren't many hobbies where you can be among 135 other like-minded individuals sharing a common bond of QRP+Homebrewing+Operating. Nothing beats the excitement of identifying with each other's successes, and of understanding the subtle nuances of the projects being discussed. Nothing beats being able to meet and listen to the experts in our hobby "up close and personal".

The time has never been better for being a QRPer, for being exposed to the fabulous skills and talent of others, and to have available the online resources we have in the various QRP lists, the websites and local club gatherings.

There's virtually no reason \*not\* to take advantage of these QRP events at some point ... so why not reserve a spot at Arkicon, Pacificon, or any of the other weekends throughout the year?! You'll sure be glad you did.

73, George N2APB  
n2apb@amsat.org  
for the NJQRP Club at <http://www.njqrp.org>

PS: For the full story, plus a growing list of photos recapping the fun,  
excitement and QRP-heaven of the Atlanticon weekend, please visit  
<http://www.njqrp.org/atlanticon>

-----  
Date: Mon, 02 Apr 2001 21:46:43 -0700  
From: Brian Kassel <bkassel@dancris.com>  
To: QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>, azqrp <azqrp@extremezone.com>  
Subject: [95539] Contest: ARS Spartan Sprint - K7RE  
Message-ID: <3AC955B3.EDF294BB@dancris.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Contest: ARS Spartan Sprint 4-2001

Category:\_\_\_\_\_Tubby\_\_\_\_\_ Mode:CW Power: 5 W

Callsign of Operator: K7RE

Exchanged Information: K7RE 559 AZ

Hours of Operation:\_\_\_\_2.0\_\_\_\_ Hours.

Band	QSOs	Points	Mult's
160	0	0	0
80	0	0	0
40	13	13	11
20	37	37	23
15	5	5	4
10	0	0	0
6	0	0	0
2	0	0	0
Totals	55	55	38

Skinney Division? No Station Weight (decimal format) \_\_\_\_\_LBS

Tubby Division? Yes

QSO's/Weight = \_\_\_\_\_

Club or Team Name:

Comments: Another good one, but lot's of QRN from T-storms here made copying the weak ones a bit of a challenge this time around.

Highlights: Worked AL7FS and AL7OK on 15, and OK again on 20M. W4NJK (CA) with 100 mw, W9FNB (IN) with 200 mw, and THE MAN, Russ AA7QU (OR) with 400 mw. Lot's of stations at the 1,2 and 3 watt levels too. No Canadians heard this time around. Sure would have been great to be able to put a few more 15M QSO's into the log.

-----  
Date: Sun, 1 Apr 2001 11:45:36 -0700

From: "Kevin Asato" <kevin.k.asato@worldnet.att.net>

To: <ac7a@gci-net.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [95540] Re: What kind of AC power receptacle is used in Germany?

Message-ID: <008901c0badb\$f3364c40\$8201a8c0@worldnet.att.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Targus makes a couple of adapters for Germany, PWR-106 (large) and PWR-115. Both adapters have two round pins of the same size. The PWR-106 is used on grounded receptacles. I got mine at a local computer store along with power and telephone adapters for other countries.

The power adapters only provide physical connectivity to the outlet. They will do nothing about converting the 220-240VAC, 50Hz! My wife managed to smoke a curling iron while completely unaware of this.

Kevin K Asato, KC6POB

Systems Engineer

ADC PairGain

800.638.0031/714.730.3222 (voice)

714.730.2400 (fax)

----- Original Message -----

From: Thomas Kuehl <ac7a@gci-net.com>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Sunday, April 01, 2001 11:59 AM

Subject: What kind of AC power receptacle is used in Germany?

> Hello All,  
>  
> Most of Tucson, home of the University of Arizona, has been  
> stricken with a severe case of Wildcat fever; so, if I lose  
> my train of thought, please forgive me (my daughter and my  
> money both go to the U of A).  
>  
> In May, I am traveling to Germany and plan to take my K2  
> along. I've purchased one of the Elpac, 12-volt switching  
> supplies from All Electronics. It is usable with AC mains of  
> 85 to 250 volts. The question I have is what kind of wall  
> receptacle is used in Germany? Since the supply uses a  
> detachable power cord, I'd like to assemble one before I  
> leave.  
>  
> If you know please respond directly, or to the list if you  
> think the information may be of value to others.  
>  
> '73, Thomas - AC7A (Tucson - GO CATS!)  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 01:40:19 -0700  
From: Rick Conners WA7ND <wa7nd@arrl.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [95541] solder  
Message-ID: <3.0.32.20010403014013.007c5100@127.0.0.1>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I am just starting to build kits.

Thought I would practice soldering before I ruined anything.

I bought a 25 watt Weller iron at Home Depot, about \$14.00 plus  
lead free rosin core solder consisting of 96% lead and 4 % silver.

I thought my solder joints would be gleaming but much to my dismay, they  
are dull.

1. What am I doing wrong?
2. What is thge BEST solder to use and where do I get it?



3. What is the best type of iron and/or solder station for kit building. Knowing wattage and temp. requirements would help....where can I buy a good station?

Tnx/73,

Rick  
WA7ND  
wa7nd@arrl.net  
ThunderPaws Ranch  
Tumalo, Oregon, USA

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 06:22:48 EDT  
From: K5BDZ@aol.com  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [95542] International Travel - power sources  
Message-ID: <16.b116ac8.27fafa78@aol.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

International travel brings three considerations when dealing with electric mains power: 1) voltage; 2) cps. ; and 3) power plug considerations. Europe is usually ~ 220 vac @ 50 cy and the power receptacles will vary between countries (and sometimes between rooms, i.e. the bedroom will have a flush power receptacle and the bathroom will have a recessed receptacle that will only accept the proper shape as well as proper pins). Also "50-60 cps" on the label in the US don't mean a damn thing on so many items. 50 cps will burn them up. Experience!

EASY WAY: If you're going to be running battery packs (radio, digi-camera, etc.) and you're traveling by car, just get a mobile battery charger that plugs into the cigar lighter.

Next easy way... wait until you get there and buy a cheap 12 vdc power supply over there. Europe, for example, is not Orion, but just another part of the world economy, with many sources of reasonable power supplies (including a WalMart in some cities). In many instances, it's cheaper there than here, and designed / built to function properly there.

Bill K5BDZ

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 08:16:51 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "John L. Sielke" <w2agn@pobox.com>  
To: George Heron N2APB <n2apb@erols.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95543] RE: Atlanticon recap, Part 4 - Conclusion  
Message-ID: <XFMail.010403081651.w2agn@pobox.com>  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
MIME-Version: 1.0

You gotta sell a lot of pens to donate prizes like this!

John W2AGN

On 03-Apr-01 George Heron N2APB wrote:  
> NJQRP Club -- EMTECH kits, FT-817, MP-1, Squirt, Warbler, 4017 Kit,

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 06:44:05 -0600  
From: "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>  
To: <elecraft@qth.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, "Flying Pigs" <fpqrp-1@mpna.com>  
Subject: [95544] Weller WTCPT on sale @ RS  
Message-ID: <0E28TetpIuPHDXE2sCR000033e7@hotmail.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

Got a Radio Shack Flyer in yesterday's mail, The Weller is only  
%89.95.

New K2 builders: If you need a soldering station, the WTCPT perfect  
for Elecraft kits.

73, Rod N0RC  
Ft Collins CO

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 08:47:27 EDT

From: Shephed@aol.com  
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95545] Re: Walt's big mouth!!!  
Message-ID: <c0.1218d633.27fb205f@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

All we need now are aliens, a government agent, and tie into some underworld= drug lord.

72, oo  
Dan, N8IE=AE

Daniel J. Shepherd Sr. is a registered trademark of  
Eva Ruth and James Donald Shepherd Productions.  
Copyright, 1962

In a message dated Mon, 2 Apr 2001 4:58:46 PM Eastern Daylight Time, "John=20=L. Sielke" <w2agn@pobox.com> writes:

<< Stay tuned for tomorrow's episode of "As the Ham Turns." Will Walt respon= d to Steve? Will someone else respond to Walt or Steve? Does anyone really give a \*\*\*\*? Maybe we should try to merge QRP-L with UPN or FOX? Hey, FOX hunts, I get it now!

John W2AGN

On 02-Apr-01 Mike Yetsko wrote:

>> You whine about being maligned, then you make the guys case by your  
>> own admission. Whats moving got to do with fulfilling an obligation  
> to  
>> ship the goods "PROMPLY", nothing thats what? Then you say, if they  
>> had dropped you a post, it would have been explained? Then you say,  
>> you didn't have time to look at your email. Pretty 'THIN'  
> explanation!  
>> de Steve, W8SFF  
>=20  
> Oh, I don't know... I think an admission of someone to being  
> disorganized  
> and even possibly lazy is a far cry from being labeled a "SWINDLER".  
>=20  
> Mike  
>>

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 08:46:59 -0400  
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>  
To: <wa7nd@arrl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95546] Re: solder  
Message-ID: <00c201c0bc3c\$74ee2e40\$6b01a8c0@INSYDENT>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> I am just starting to build kits.  
>  
> Thought I would practice soldering before I ruined anything.

This is an INCREDIBLY good idea!! Technique can make or break  
a kit!

> I bought a 25 watt 25 watt Weller iron at Home Depot, about \$14.00

While not the best iron, if you can learn technique on it, then it will  
be  
fine.

OK, here's a few 'rules'.

Start with a good tip. Most cheap tips are junk, but can be servicable  
for a while. The big problem is they erode. If you get ANY concave  
surfaces, FILE the tip nice and smooth. Good tips are 'plated' and you  
should NEVER EVER EVER file them. EVER!!! You shouldn't even  
RUB them with an abrasive!! I had a tip on my Weller TCPT (or  
whatever it's called, the transformer station with the magnetic heater)  
last from 1978 till last year. TAKE CARE OF GOOD TIPS!!

That means you TIN the tip with solder. You ALWAYS put the iron away  
cold with SOLDER covering the tip. When you want to use it, you wipe it  
on the damp sponge (never 'wet') an then a LIGHT tinning. Right before  
I turn my iron off, I wipe it, then tin it. I wait until the it stops  
smoking to  
indicate the flux has burnt off, then I turn it off and let it cool.

OK, you have a cheap iron, with something of a nail in the end. You can  
still treat it right!

> 2. What is thge BEST solder to use and where do I get it?

Solder can be a very personal thing. I personally like some of the Kesters. Here at work, the bench tech has this thing about his solders. For most work he uses Kester with this stuff called '44' flux. It's a 60/40 mix. .025" diameter. For his fine work, he like Alpha Metals . It's marked Telecore Plus, and is 63/37 with a 'p1' flux. It's thin at .015" diameter. And for really fine stuff, I has some Kester that looks like human hair. It takes a couple of feet to solder a wire lead to a board! (I had to use it once in a pinch.)

One thing to note... All the 'good' solder for this kind of work is generally more expensive, so expect that. It also is 'traceable' by 'lot number'.

I would chuck any of the 'lead free' stuff you get at Home Depot. In fact, I would chuck ANY of the solder you get there. Chances are it's not good electronic solder. At best it's for generic 'electrical' circuits, not for fine electronic work, and probably not even that, it's probably 'plumbing' solder.

Chuck it.

> 3. What is the best type of iron and/or solder staion for kit building.  
> Knowing wattage and temp. requirements would help....where can I buy  
> a good station?

I'm partial to Weller. Oh there are some great 'other' brands, but Weller is everywhere. The WTCP station is great, but it's more of an 'industrial production line' station. The WC100 station is pretty nice, and more suited to the hobbiest. And believe it or not, they are available at Radio Shack. Ok, not AT Radio Shack, but THROUGH Radio Shack. Check out RadioShack.Com. (Personally, if you do, AVOID the TechAmerica station with the digital readout. It's clunky, and some of the people I know who have gotten it don't like it at all. Me? I think it's terrible.)

Practice with your 'cheap' iron. And look for deals. I think RS had the WC100 station on sale last summer for under \$50.

How to solder? Well, for one thing, never heat JUST the board, or JUST the wire. If you have two or three things to connect, heat them ALL. I sorta developed a technique of 'rolling the iron' just a few degrees as

I  
set it into the joint, then hit the joint with solder. Too much heat  
can  
damage a part. But too LITTLE heat can be just as bad. If you don't  
have a hot enough iron, then you tend to heat the joint (and parts)  
more,  
and EVERYTHING gets too hot. The idea is to apply heat, apply it fast,  
and GET OUT OF THERE as soon as possible before the heat  
conducts to where it doesn't belong. In and out FAST is the key.

I've worked production line. Well, not real line. It was a 'repair  
line', where  
we had to repair PCBs. It was a 'late night' 4-hour shift to analyze  
problems. We would have to pull a PCB, find the problem, fix it  
(including  
suck out the bad part, solder in any new parts) and test. These were  
Tandy 1000's, and we would shoot for 100 repairs a night. Sounds like a  
lot, but in fact it wasn't that hard. We could 'pass' on any board we  
didn't  
'like'. And the boards were NOT in cases. And we had a test bench.  
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we were allowed to 'cherry pick'. I.e. I took DMA/video problems. The next  
guy took memory problems, that kind of thing. If we couldn't analyze  
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in the box and you pull the next one. Having good soldering skills at  
speed was mandatory!

Oh, I like the WTCP iron because the temperature is FIXED at 700  
degrees. The WC100 station you can turn up or down, but you should  
really just LEAVE IT at 700. Don't try to play games with the  
temperature,  
learn to use it right, not try to compensate for poor technique.

Mike

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 09:18:51 -0400  
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>  
To: "'myetsko@insydesw.com'" <myetsko@insydesw.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio  
Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95547] RE: solder  
Message-ID: <078F21595FA7D411B87B00805FA728E64A4682@atlexc02ntms.hboc.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Two comments.

I do believe the solder he got at Home Depot is a tin silver solder and is a great solder. However, very expensive. Any of the silver bearing solders will eliminate the tip "erosion" where the solder will eat up a copper tip. Also the silver bearing solder (2-3 %) will give you a very nice looking joint and flows extremely well. It is a little more expensive but is worth it in the long run. Just about any solder when used properly should give you a shiny finish, except plumbing solder, which is now outlawed for water pipe use due to lead contamination. Ersin 5 core is another major vendor of solders. Take a look at their web sites and spend some time looking around. There has been some discussion on the newer organic non-polluting cores. Some people have had problems with them. The older rosin cores will be disappearing from the market due to environmental issues. If you find a solder that you really like, fear not, get a pound roll. If you are just "looking around" you might consider getting a smaller quantity in the event you flat out do not like it for some reason. If you are a clean look person, some of the water soluble fluxes are really nice and you can put your board in the dishwasher when you are done and clean it up. That is, if there are no water damageable parts on it...

For a SUPER deal on a soldering station, FAIR Radio Sales has the Weller station for around \$65 or so and has a FULL selection of tips with it. It is the WCTP in a military metal case that is totally self contained. One of the best deals on the market. It has an assortment of tips with different temps. The tips are worth what the whole thing sells for! Got one and love it! Don't own stock in FAIR just like good deals.

Jerry L.  
W3CDE  
Atlanta, GA

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Yetsko [mailto:myetsko@insydesw.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2001 8:47 AM  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion  
Subject: Re: solder

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'like'. And the boards were NOT in cases. And we had a test bench.  
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guy took memory problems, that kind of thing. If we couldn't analyze  
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degrees. The WC100 station you can turn up or down, but you should  
really just LEAVE IT at 700. Don't try to play games with the  
temperature,  
learn to use it right, not try to compensate for poor technique.

Mike

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 09:43:59 -0400  
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>  
To: K5BDZ@aol.com  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95548] Re: International Travel - power sources  
Message-ID: <3AC9D39F.4FA3158A@erols.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bill,

I'd like to add one thing. If your trip has anything to do with the  
military, every base I have been to has 115 Volt 60 Hz power. Also if  
you look carefully for people who are going home, either in the military  
or techrep community, you can often buy used isolation transformers that  
convert between 220 volts and 115 volts for a very reasonable price.  
Again, personal experience.

73

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 06:51:33 -0700  
From: bomc <bomc@goodnet.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [95549] SMK-1 fix  
Message-ID: <3AC9D564.2445645B@goodnet.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A while back,WA4NWW wrote that he had fixed his SMK-1 by listening to the Local Oscillator on a 7MHz loop antenna. Really quickly; how do I build one? Thanks for your time and 73 DE AC7JO

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 09:01:42 -0500  
From: "Kanalz, Karl" <Karl.Kanalz@allegiancetelecom.com>  
To: "'bomc@goodnet.com'" <bomc@goodnet.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95550] RE: SMK-1 fix  
Message-ID: <E78D8A9D6762D411B5440008C791D4AA04A4995B@dfwex03.allegiancetelecom.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain

Build WHAT quickly? A "Smack One" or a 7 MHz loop antenna?

Karl K - W8TIF  
McKinney, Texas

> -----Original Message-----  
> From: bomc [SMTP:bomc@goodnet.com]  
> Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2001 8:52 AM  
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion  
> Subject: SMK-1 fix  
>  
> A while back,WA4NWW wrote that he had fixed his SMK-1 by listening to the  
> Local Oscillator on a 7MHz loop antenna. Really quickly; how do I  
> build one? Thanks for your time and 73 DE AC7JO

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 08:27:25 -0700 (PDT)  
From: =?ISO-8859-1?Q?"KB=D8VCC"?= <kb0vcc@yahoo.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [95551] Re: [PROP] Flare after effects  
Message-ID: <20010403152725.25911.qmail@web1206.mail.yahoo.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

>Normally frequencies beyond 5Mhz  
>are not affected. Now even 15m has about 2db attenuation!

Thanks for the post Rod. This has been an interesting thread, given all the solar activity as of late. However, I find it interesting how often practice yields different results. Both 40m and 20m remained not only open but HOT here in New Hampshire all night. I pulled an all-nighter programming the computer last night, with the OHR-500 on FISTS freqs for "background noise". Snagged a QSO whenever I felt drowsy. Worked some DX, including an extended QSO with an EA1 sometime after 1:00AM and a with a VK2 around 3:30AM. All at 4.5w to a multi-band (parallel) dipole at 40'. Generally, 20m has been dropping out around midnight here, but NOT last night. There were plenty of QSOs to be heard. Even 10m was still open at midnight.

72/73!

Dale

=====

```
=====
Dale Anderson           In the Mt Washington Valley
KB0VCC                  Conway, New Hampshire
QRP-L #91 / CQC #251    Grid Sq: FN43KX
ARS #234 / FISTS #3172  http://www.qsl.net/kb0vcc
=====
```

-----  
Do You Yahoo!?  
Get email at your own domain with Yahoo! Mail.  
<http://personal.mail.yahoo.com/>

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 11:49:13 -0400  
From: ed.kwik@delphiauto.com  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [95552] MI QRP Net  
Message-ID: <05256A23.0056E9EE.00@uskokg99.delcoelect.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

Last week we had seven check ins from six states:

WA9PWP	579 579	Stoughton, WI	Paul
AA1MY	449 559	Bethel, ME	Seab
K8KJK	589 599	Charleston, WV	Gary
K1CL	559 579	Chelmsford, MA	Chuck
W8UCB	579 599	Niles, MI	Bob
WB8UUJ	359 379	Flushing, MI	Tom
WA3WAW	559 599	Union Town, PA	Bert

The Michigan QRP net meets each Tuesday night at 9:00 PM Eastern time on 3.535 MHz. All hams are welcome.

Ed AB8DF

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 08:59:29 -0700  
From: "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>  
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95553] Little Joe Fixed - Sort Of  
Message-ID: <60F1FEB31CA3D211A1B60008C7A45F430998023F@blaze.bcsc.gov.bc.ca>  
Content-return: allowed  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Well, I got the oscillator in the Little Joe tx to function finally. Thanks to all of you who came up with some really good thing to try.

Just prior to throwing the crystal on the floor and jumping on it, I tried re-winding L1/L2, the inductor that couples the oscillator to the amp. I re-wound this on a completely different T-50-6 toroid. I put it back together and voila, I had signal!! I'm not exactly sure why this didn't work in the first place. I've never seen a bad toroid before. And, I did check the winding(s) and solder connections on the original one thoroughly.

However, I think I may have created a few more problems in the process. First, the output as measured on my freq. counter is the third harmonic of the fundamental crystal cut for 14.025MHz. Secondly, the rig is very susceptible to stray capacitance. If I bring my hand close to it, it goes haywire. I've tried grounding it with no difference noted. The 40 meter version of this tx that I built exhibits none of these problems.

Could there be something wrong in the pi network high-pass filter just ahead of the antenna? I think that is supposed to suppress the harmonics, isn't

it? I'm not sure what to do about the stray capacitance problem. HELP AGAIN!!

Doug VA7DD  
MailTo:Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 11:12:39 -0500  
From: "John Burnley" <JBurnley@ifmc.org>  
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95554] New PSK-31 30 Meter Transceiver - WARCbler  
Message-ID: <sac9b033.019@IAWEB01.ifmc.org>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable  
Content-Disposition: inline

The WARC-bler is a mutant of the NJ QRP Club's wildly popular 80m PSK31 transceiver dubbed the "Warbler." Fred WOFMS and Jeff WOODS (better known as the original "twisted pair") have conspired to bring this rig up a few = octaves to the little used and longer propagating 30m band. They have re-designed = the crystal filters and tweaked the tuned circuits, and expect to provide the changed components as a kit for the adventuresome among you. John Burnley will be carrying the WARC-bler Alpha prototype to Arkiecon this weekend = for it's national premier. This is a 'Just-in-Time' project; Fred and Jeff = received the crystals exactly one week ago today. It's been a busy week, to say = the least, but the results are encouraging. If demand is good, they will = provide kits for other bands. The estimated cost of a kit to convert the Warbler from 80m to 30m is \$25, which includes 6 matched crystals and the capacitors and inductors necessary to make the change.

Documentation and background information will be available on a web site near you once the design is finished.

Tonight transmitter tests of the WARCbler are being conducted. =20 Anyone out there in QRP land who has PSK31 on 30m available is requested to pop up on or about 10.143 MHz at about 9 pm CDT tonight.

Any questions can be directed to Jeff w0ods@hotmail.com or Fred=20 fspinner@hotmail.com .

72 and looking forward to hearing some of you on 30m tonight,

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 10:35:31 -0600 (CST)  
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>  
To: Low Power Group <qrp-l@LeHigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95555] addresses needed  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0104031034250.23190-1000000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Would the members of the fox hunting Team, the Big Dawgs, please send me their snail mail addresses please?.....tnx....

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272  
A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - SOC #11 & #12 - Whiner#10 -  
"QRP! How sweet it is!" oo#148 "I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 23:43:44 +0700  
From: "Donny Sirait" <dsirait@centrin.net.id>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95556] Which harbor frieght hand punch?? for Manhattan style  
Message-ID: <003801c0bc5d\$4538baa0\$8eee92ca@donnysirait>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dear Gang,

There are 2 hand punch offered at the harbor frieght web site

the first is the 2000 Lbs punch with a carrying case price about \$20  
item No: 37405-0VGA

I think this one is the one Chuck refered to in his article.

The other is on sale for \$ 10 without a carrying case item No. 44060-2VGA

Could I use the cheaper one for Manhattan style??

Comments will be very much appreciated.

vy 72 de YB1B0D  
Donny

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 12:39:33 -0500  
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
To: ".QRP-L Discussion Group" <QRP-L@Lehigh.edu>  
Cc: ")W.D.(Doc)Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
Subject: [95557] K0EVZ = Regular FOX in Xtreme FOX hunt Tuesday  
Message-ID: <200104031139\_MC2-CB24-B525@compuserve.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Disposition: inline

Gang:

Well the Xtreme FOX hunt is approaching rapidly. K0EVZ will join about twenty FOXes (both regular and Cub FOXes) in this "free for all" special event FOX hunt. Just imagine FOX hunters spread around from 7.030 - 7.05=5,  
and 7.100 - 7.150? Should be a blast. =

We begin at 0100Z and end at 0300Z (ie, very early Wednesday morning, Zulu-time). =

Who will be the top hunter tonight? Which FOX will have the most QSO's? =

REMEMBER--try to work both Cub FOXes and regular FOXes. The FOXes will be on there, so let's give them some business. See you tonight.

72,  
--Doc/K0EVZ

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 12:39:31 -0500  
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
To: "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>



Cc: "W.D.(Doc)Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>, ".QRP-L Discussion Group" <QRP-L@Lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95558] [Elecraft] AR Sprint, YES!!!  
Message-ID: <200104031139\_MC2-CB24-B524@compuserve.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Disposition: inline

Rod:

Well thanks for dropping by. You had a HUGE signal at my place, which is= why I sent more than the generic 559 at the end of the QS0. I was using= the K1 at 5 watts to the big 560' horizontal loop up 33'. Congratulations on your outstanding showing. Fun, wasn't it :-)?

72,  
--Doc/K0EVZ

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 11:52:11 -0400  
From: Maxime Prati <mprati@postech.ca>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95559] Hakko 936 soldering station  
Message-ID: <1184DDFC52DBD311AF510050DA799BB763D6A3@INTERNET-SERVER>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain

Hi,

Any comments on the Hakko 936 soldering station is welcome...

Any great deal also !!! :)

73 de VE2HAC

"Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side, a dark side, and it holds the universe together...."

Maxime Prati

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 13:40:20 -0400  
From: Thomas Jennings <jennings@shell1.eznet.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95560] Fox: Look for kv2x!!  
Message-ID: <20010403134020.A32337@shell1.eznet.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

Hounds,  
Don't forget about the EXTREME Fox Hunt tonight!  
9 PM to 11 PM EDT  
I'll be above 7050  
Good hunting!

73

Tom kv2x

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 13:45:04 -0400  
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>  
To: "'dsirait@centrin.net.id'" <dsirait@centrin.net.id>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95561] RE: Which harbor freight hand punch?? for Manhattan style  
Message-ID: <078F21595FA7D411B87B00805FA728E64A4685@atlexc02ntms.hboc.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Donny,

It looks like the only difference between them is that one is SAE and the other (cheaper) is Metric. Both have a case. Both punch 16 gauge. steel...

Jerry

W3CDE

-----Original Message-----

From: Donny Sirait [mailto:dsirait@centrin.net.id]  
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2001 12:44 PM  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion  
Subject: Which harbor frieght hand punch?? for Manhattan style

Dear Gang,

There are 2 hand punch offered at the harbor frieght web site

the first is the 2000 Lbs punch with a carrying case price about \$20  
item No: 37405-0VGA

I think this one is the one Chuck refered to in his article.

The other is on sale for \$ 10 without a carrying case item No. 44060-2VGA

Could I use the cheaper one for Manhattan style??

Comments will be very much appreciated.

vy 72 de YB1B0D  
Donny

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 09:49:40 -0800  
From: Jim Larsen AL7FS <al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>  
To: "qrp-1@lehigh.edu" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95562] Spartan Sprint - de AL7FS  
Message-ID: <3ACA0D34.E0D99891@pobox.alaska.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings from Alaska,

The Spartan Sprint was once again a fun place to be. I was pleased to pick up 9 QSOs in the hour I was on the air (AZ, AK, CA, WA and NV). I even had a nice 10 minute ragchew with KB70EX, Tim, during that time. He was on his K2 and has only been on CW for 3 months. Great job, Tim. I missed a few like N7LT in MT and K4FB in FL. At first, I was convinced my signal was not getting out of AK as well as signals were getting in. It could have just been the QRM down in the Lower 48.

I must say thanks to each of you for the fun during the Spartan Sprint. I will try to be there when I can and I am tickled that AL70K, John, is becoming a regular. BTW, he won the Small Wonder Labs SW20+ as a door prize at a talk I gave to the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club about 2 years ago. He now sports a new K1 and even operates his big rig as QRP.

73, Jim

--

Jim Larsen, AL7FS, Anchorage, Alaska  
(BP51cc) - 61.101 North, 149.824 West  
<http://www.qsl.net/al7fs/>

-----  
Date: Fri, 20 Apr 2001 10:15:49 -0700  
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>  
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [95563] Arkiecon is this Weekend!!!  
Message-ID: <01c0c9bd\$8bfa1c00\$330b0d0a@doug.dph.dpol.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Man I can hardly wait. Started packing last night, and I will be bringing a bunch of stuff down there. Stopped by the printers and he assured me that he would have 150 advance copies of the Spring issue of QRPP, featuring Jim Kortge's massive article on opitmizing and building the Iowa QRP 10!! I will be taking them to Ft. Smith and pass them out to the QRPers in attendance. The guys who get to meet Jim this weekend will have the "book" to check the circuit and ask questions of the master.

Jim is going to bring his Iowa QRP 10, so is Chuck Adams, K7Q0, and the designer, Mike Fitzgibbon, N0MF. You get the chance to see the best doing what they do best!!

Sir Tony Fishpool and Lord Graham Firth are both going to be there from England. You don't want to miss their presentation, or my introduction of them. You will have such a good time that you won't even realize how much you have learned until it is over. Painless learning from two of the best.

George Heron, the guy who ran the Atlanticon show will display his talents as a speaker this weekend. George is an amazing guy, and a true gentleman, even if his guitar music is off the beaten path, especially for Arkansas. George, Graham and I have a picking and grinning session planned for this weekend, and we will start with Wildwood Flower and follow with Mountain Dew. (This won't be public, but something that we will do on our own, grin.)

Lots of big QRP names will be there. Jim Cates, Vern Wright, Jim Duffey, Dick Wohslagel, Dave Yarnes, Mike Fitzgibbon, John Burnley, Daryl Swenson, Gary Harrison, Kelly Ellison from Branson, Willie and Ernestine from Texarkana, Glen Reid, Ed Manuel, Hangin' Judge Kelsey Mikel, Governor Win Dooley, Clif Sikes, Burl Keeton, Dub Thornton, Jim Kortge, Chuck Adams, Dennis Foster, Keith Newman, Nick Kennedy, Keith Newman. Gosh the list is really big. But don't worry, you will have the chance to meet every one of them this weekend in Ft. Smith, the QRP Happening Place.

The fun starts Friday night with dinner at the Ribeye. It is a no host affair. We all hoped that the Hangin' Judge Kelsey would pick up the tab, but he says that he can't afford it now that the election is over. Saturday is the Ft. Smith Hamfest at Columbus Acres. Lots of fun and 4 great speakers, including Jim Kortge, Tony Fishpool, Graham Firth and George Heron. JayBob has the schedule so that there will be an hour break between speakers, a great idea. The hamfest is a good one with lots of tables, and you want to make it a point to stop by and see Dennis Foster at his table. He will be selling NorCal BLT tuners and NorCal Doublets at the hamfest. His display is really neat. Plus he will have the Te-Ne-Ke's too!!

Saturday night will be the FREE Barbecue, and you don't want to miss that. Building contest judgeing takes place then, and we will announce the winners that night. Also, Vern Wright will have an MP-1 set up and operational. Bring your favorite portable rig and hook it up to the MP-1, and if you have an FT817, be sure to bring it to try it out on the MP-1. Vern has a great powder coated antenna mount to attach the MP-1 right to the 817, you gotta see this in action. So bring those portable rigs, show us your portable setup, and make sure to bring your 817 to try on the MP-1.

JayBob also is giving away the hottest selling QRP radio in the world now, the FT817. This radio is a huge hit with the guys, and the main prize at the QRP Forum is a complete FT817 setup with MP-1 antenna, tripod stand, 80 meter coil, the works from Vern Wright, and a complete set of TeNeKe's from Dennis Foster. You will be able to get right on the air if you win the rig. Special thanks to Yaesu for the great deal that they gave the Ft. Smith QRP Group on the 817.

I'll see you guys in Ft. Smith Friday. Keith Newman is saving a seat for me at the Ribeye, and I will be there!! 72, Doug

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:39:28 -0300  
From: "Dave Marling" <dbm@klis.com>

To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95564] OT - internet and speed  
Message-ID: <000701c0bc75\$ccfa11b0\$ff2ffea9@master>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Someone posted a message within the last month or two about a satellite upload/download connection to the internet. I'm tired of my 56K dial-up that only makes it to 28.8K at best. Can you reply off list as I'd like to find out more?

Dave  
VE1VQ

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 14:58:39 -0400  
From: "Chris" <w4yyz@tampabay.rr.com>  
To: <dbm@klis.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95565] Re: OT - internet and speed  
Message-ID: <0d4601c0bc70\$1a4bd3f0\$63502041@blitzk>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

<http://www.starband.com/>

----- Original Message -----

From: "Dave Marling" <dbm@klis.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2001 3:39 PM  
Subject: OT - internet and speed

> Someone posted a message within the last month or two about a satellite  
> upload/download connection to the internet. I'm tired of my 56K dial-up  
> that only makes it to 28.8K at best. Can you reply off list as I'd like  
> to  
> find out more?  
>  
> Dave  
> VE1VQ  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 15:15:52 -0400  
From: Maxime Prati <mprati@postech.ca>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95566] Curtis 8044 chip  
Message-ID: <1184DDFC52DBD311AF510050DA799BB763D6A8@INTERNET-SERVER>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain

Hi,

Do a source for the famous Curtis 8044 chip exist on this planet ?  
I have one who is blown... I need to replace it.

73 de VE2HAC

"Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side, a dark side, and it holds  
the universe together...."  
Maxime Prati

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 19:46:37 +0100  
From: Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu, elecrafft@qth.net  
Subject: [95567] Spartan Sprint the K1 and my 9 Volt MiMH Battery  
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20010403193549.009e7cb0@pop.erols.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

As the spartan sprint goes later than I stay up most night, I just played  
around. Equipment was the K1 set at 500 mWatts, and a set of 9 V. NiMH  
batteries. I forgot and used the heavy with paddles - they weigh more then  
the rig and battery combined. With the first battery I tried seach and  
pounce on 20 meters looking mainly for new states. That didn't work - the  
battery died with out a single QS0. So the second battery was devoted to  
40 meters. I picked a frequency and started sending CQ. That worked real  
well - four quick QS0s. Then I had to shut it down and make sure I had  
them logged correctly. When I turned the rig back on there was NA30  
sending CQ SP. So a quick QS0 with him and the K1 said the battery was  
showing 8.0 volts on transmit. I declared the battery dead, threw it back  
in the charger and hit the sack. Sure was a fun evening. I added AL to  
the list of states worked with the K1 and the 9 Volt batteries. That  
brings the total to 20 states so far.

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD  
<http://www.qsl.net/wd3e>

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 15:16:33 -0500  
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
To: "Richard Clem" <clem.law@usa.net>  
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95568] QRP mobile hints  
Message-ID: <003501c0bc7a\$fa097650\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

Good thinking on having the counterpoise. But, you need to snake that wire out the drain hole for the spare tire to underneath the car, and have it zig zag thru the frame to the front of the car. If you cannot get the whole 33 feet done underneath, do what you can.

Bond the trunk lid to the body metal with a copper braid strap, or wide flat copper ribbon, (or even computer flat cable with all wires in parallel at both ends.) That will help the lid work more like a reflector ground plane with the body panels.

QRP mobile just takes persistence, and hunt and peck technique onto strong signals.  
72,  
Stuart K5KVH

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 15:17:41 -0400  
From: Dave Pomeroy <dave\_pomeroy@voyager.net>  
To: w4yyz@tampabay.rr.com, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95569] Re: OT - internet and speed  
Message-ID: <01040315174100.01839@dave>  
Content-Type: text/plain  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

On Tue, 03 Apr 2001, you wrote:

Earthlink is suppose to make a satellite up/down connection this month. I don't know the details.  
Try Earthlink's home page at [www.Earthlink.net](http://www.Earthlink.net) under the broadband link.  
Dave Pomeroy K8DNP SouthWestern Michigan



> <http://www.starband.com/>  
>  
> ----- Original Message -----  
> From: "Dave Marling" <dbm@klis.com>  
> To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
> Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2001 3:39 PM  
> Subject: OT - internet and speed  
>  
> > Someone posted a message within the last month or two about a satellite  
> > upload/download connection to the internet. I'm tired of my 56K dial-up  
> > that only makes it to 28.8K at best. Can you reply off list as I'd like  
>  
> to  
>  
> > find out more?  
> >  
> > Dave  
> > VE1VQ

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 20:19:59 +0100  
From: Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>  
To: rohre@arlut.utexas.edu, qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [95570] Re: QRP mobile hints  
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20010403201539.009f1ec0@pop.erols.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 03:16 PM 04/03/01 -0500, you wrote:

>QRP mobile just takes persistence, and hunt and peck technique onto strong  
>signals.

You don't always have to hunt and peck. I was out mobile last October listening on the county hunter frequency and heard a VK come back to a fellow running a county. So I said what the heck. When he was done I ran the county I was in QRP (I usually run them at 50 watts - these QSOs are for them not me). Sure enough the VK comes back to me. So I snag Australia QRP mobile from VA.

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD

-----

Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:03:33 +0000  
From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [95571] Update: Digital Pwr meter kit  
Message-ID: <200104032036.f33KaRx24711@wolf.ncia.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Hi Gang,

About 30 guys have reserved a kit so far, so I've decided to limit this run to 50 kits. That's how many of the all important AD8361 rms detector chips I just ordered from Future. Thankfully, they actually had stock and should be here in a few days.

I'll get back to everyone who reserved a kit to confirm in the next day or so.

In case you missed the announcement of the kit yesterday and wondering what this is all about, here's the important specs:

True RMS RF Digital power meter  
9.999 watts full scale +/- 5% full scale accuracy.  
four digit led display  
Built in 10 watt, 50 ohm dummy load  
Board kit, \$59.95, post paid.

72,  
Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire  
"melt solder"

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 15:43:40 -0500  
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
To: "Paul Womble" <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>  
Cc: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95572] Network coax good IF---  
Message-ID: <003b01c0bc7e\$c3d289b0\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

It is probably lower loss at HF than cheap CB coax for sure. Compare to Belden or other standard catalog brands, like Times, and find a similar impedance cable and see what its loss at 400 MHz is. Then, see what they show at HF.

I looked up a coax with this 400 loss in the Alpha Wire catalog I had, (not able to find my Belden at the moment); and for cables with this loss, they

had losses like RG58 quarter inch coax at HF. OK, but not great at 10m. RG 8X from Radio Shack would be better. My Alpha equivalent shows 3.3 dB loss at 50 MHz. Only 1.2 at 1 MHz. IS yours a quarter inch cable?

The advantage of RG 8X is the larger inner core wire gauge. It is more durable on wind driven antennas than the RG 58 types, and of course you want to avoid a solid center conductor, (which some network cables have, since they are used indoors.)

Of course, if you have a lot, and its free, it might be worth occasionally having to replace it from stress failure, if a solid center wire. Most of the network cables have better shields than the cheap radio coax.

72, Stuart K5KVH

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:42:18 -0400  
From: hamjoel@juno.com  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [95573] qrp mobile  
Message-ID: <20010403.164220.-451135.1.hamjoel@juno.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

did the qrp mobile thing at 5w ssb & cw... had a ball... however until I put 90% of my effort into the antenna, results were not so good...

As those who kneaux keep telling us... ur station is in ur antenna... 5 watts is 5 watts no matter how u split it up... can't say that about an antenna, can u...?

if u want consistant communication of 459 or 559 or better u NEED to have the right antenna... or the best antenna for ur situation... or enjoy chatting with u-self a lot.... :-)

NO i AN'T AN ENGINEER OR PHD OR DDD OR WHATEVER... however I do take my qrp+ and k2 and do net control for the 7.248 sstv net in the mornings... or if I'm not pushing the pencil I'm there sending pictures... good quality pictures.... but then I took the trouble to put some rope and wire and dowel rods in the air to make a two element wire beam on forty meters...

Yes, I could send occassional pictures using an attic dipole or dipole laying on the ground... but I can make every day contacts with a good antenna...and so can u.... or u can up the power some... I hear signals every day that use 100 watts just to sound like a good 5 watt qrp station...

do the best u can with ur antenna situation and the contacts will  
come...

KE1LA JOEL  
IN MAINE  
MAINELY FREEZIN

-----  
GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!

Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!  
Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:  
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 15:46:07 -0500  
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
To: <mpupeza@altavista.com>  
Cc: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95574] Stealth wire coloring  
Message-ID: <004101c0bc7f\$1b8fc7d0\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

A friend who has to use stealthy wire antennas has found that flat black  
paint applied to copper enamel 26 gauge wire, renders it invisible against a  
blue sky! Birds can find it, to roost, but looking up from the ground you  
would swear the bird is roosting on air!

72,  
Stuart K5KVH

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 13:49:57 -0700  
From: Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>  
To: qrp-l@LeHigh.EDU, QFOX@egroups.com  
Subject: [95575] N7CQR Extreme fox hangup!  
Message-ID: <f05010413b6efe65cc62a@[209.239.211.154]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii" ; format="flowed"

Well guys-the time change has partially 'bit' this fox! I am also a  
youth baseball coach and our practices are 6 PM local (PDT). I was  
thinking that if it was still 0200 I could pull it off, but with the  
time change I will be 'SOL' unless practice is rained out. Sorry for  
the mixup-if I'm not there, have fun!

--  
Dan Presley-N7CQR-Portland, Or QRP-L #502  
-----

Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:53:04 -0400  
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>  
To: <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95576] Re: Network coax good IF---  
Message-ID: <002f01c0bc80\$19ffbc80\$6b01a8c0@INSYDENT>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've used the ethernet 'thicknet' cable for a variety of uses over the years. It varies from manufacturer to manufacturer, but overall most of the stuff I've looked at seemed to be a little bit better than 8x up through 2M. Then went into the toilet.

In fact, at my house before I divorced, I ran the stuff up to the roof for my 2M antenna with quite good results. I didn't have a run of 8x to compare it against though, but I never had any complaints.

But don't forget the advantages of the 'thicknet' stuff.

One is it's generally free.

And second, it's incredibly well shielded.

Mike

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 14:55:30 -0600 (MDT)  
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>  
To: Maxime Prati <mprati@postech.ca>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95577] Re: Curtis 8044 chip  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10104031431440.25727-100000@shell.rt66.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 3 Apr 2001, Maxime Prati wrote:

> Do a source for the famous Curtis 8044 chip exist on this planet ?  
> I have one who is blown... I need to replace it.

Maxime and others,

Two years ago at HamCom, Martin Jue was one of the QRP speakers. He was asked where MFJ gets the now-defunct Curtiss 8044 chips, and he said MFJ bought the licensing rights and has the chips made for MFJ to keep their keyer line going. And, anyone needing a Curtiss 8044 can order one directly from MFJ now.

Granted, that was the situation two years ago, and don't know if it holds true today with the ease of making keyers with various programmable logic arrays ... but worth giving MFJ a call to find out.

72, Paul NA5N

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:06:18 -0500  
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
To: <ralan@mhonline.net>  
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95578] Open wire line if installed PROPERLY is balanced, ie no radiation  
Message-ID: <004701c0bc81\$ed7e62e0\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

This is an old chestnut that seems to cause a lot of confusion. A balanced transmission line of parallel conductors is so termed because equal and opposite currents exist at any point on it, and thus it will NOT radiate.

However, that all depends on some IFs, like is the feeder away from any unbalancing conductors, is it fed to center of dipole at right angles, is it twisted every 18 inches so any unbalancing forces equally affects both conductors and thus cancels out, and are the insulators going to keep the wires in good alignment with wind and weathering. The open wire line will be the lowest loss compared to coax for the run. Even if slightly imbalanced because ground differs under each half of the dipole, say like part of it going over a roof, while the other is over the yard, any slight radiation probably cancels in a few diameters of the balanced line spacing.

However, to just insure you will not have some accidental imbalance, a good technique preached by Fred Bonavita, long a balanced line guru; is to hang the balun under the eaves, and use a short run of coax to the transmatch in the shack. You will have less coax loss, and still have the advantage of mostly balanced line feed to the dipole. You will have no more radiation in the shack than any leakage in the coax shield. You should buy good quality coax, with 95 per cent or better shield coverage to have the most field free shack.

72, Stuart K5KVH

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 16:08:56 -0500  
From: david gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [95579] Re: Stealth wire coloring  
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20010403154749.024c3cb0@bbs.galilei.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Good afternoon,

I'll second Stuart's comments that flat black can be very stealthy under the right circumstances.

#30 magnet wire seems to be about as small as you can go and not be too much at the mercy of wind, ice, etc. I don't ever recall seeing a bird perch on wire that fine though I've watched them fly into it from time-to-time.

In my experience children are more likely to accidentally discover a clandestine installation than adults. And, then pursue it to find out exactly what they are observing.

Kids are always looking up and around, being curious and generally fearless. Adults seem to be otherwise occupied with bumping into something or falling, and tend to look ahead or downwards.

de Dave, NF0R      nf0r@slacc.com

At 03:46 PM 4/3/01 -0500, you wrote:  
>A friend who has to use stealthy wire antennas has found that flat black  
>paint applied to copper enamel 26 gauge wire, renders it invisible against a  
>blue sky!

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:24:16 -0500  
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95580] How to avoid breaking your stealth or dipole wire.  
Message-ID: <005501c0bc84\$6faae6b0\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

Gang,

Discovered a handy item at Home Depot home centers that also should be available at any Farm co op store in a small town. It is a spring covered in plastic to form a gate handle for electric fences. All of 99 cents. The spring is pushed into compression, not extension by pull on the wire attached to the loops or hook end. Thus, it will not cause the antenna to sag over time. Just the thing for dipole ends anchored in trees whose limb or trunk is not as stiff as you would like.

The other fix for stealth wires, is to run the far end to an insulated pulley attached to a small hook or eye bolt in a tree. Attach a weight like a small lead fishing weight to the end of the wire, and the wire will move up and down on the pulley with the wind, and lessen the tendency to break. Just be sure to allow enough vertical wire to avoid it moving up and jamming the pulley.

72,

Stuart K5KVH

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 14:37:47 -0700

From: <schoon@amgt.com>

To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>

Subject: [95581] RE: Stealth wire coloring

Message-ID: <c=US%a=\_%p=American\_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-BDC-010403213747Z-361@ag-basalt-pxy.amgt.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Flat gray color - just like the bottom of a fighter jet!

.mark

>-----

>From: david gauding[SMTP:david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com]

>Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2001 2:08 PM

>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

>Subject: Re: Stealth wire coloring

>

>Good afternoon,

>

>I'll second Stuart's comments that flat black can be very stealthly under  
>the right circumstances.

>



>#30 magnet wire seems to be about as small as you can go and not be too  
>much at the mercy of wind, ice, etc. I don't ever recall seeing a bird  
>perch on wire that fine though I've watched them fly into it from  
>time-to-time.  
>  
>In my experience children are more likely to accidentally discover a  
>clandestine installation than adults. And, then pursue it to find out  
>exactly what they are observing.  
>  
>Kids are always looking up and around, being curious and generally  
>fearless. Adults seem to be otherwise occupied with bumping into something  
>or falling, and tend to look ahead or downwards.  
>  
>  
>de Dave, NF0R      nf0r@slacc.com  
>  
>  
> At 03:46 PM 4/3/01 -0500, you wrote:  
>>A friend who has to use stealthy wire antennas has found that flat black  
>>paint applied to copper enamel 26 gauge wire, renders it invisible against a  
>>blue sky!  
>  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:45:29 -0400  
From: Dave Pomeroy <dave\_pomeroy@voyager.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [95582] FS: K2  
Message-ID: <01040316452900.02123@dave>  
Content-Type: text/plain  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

I have a K2 for sale with all options except the 160 meter board. I would  
like to get \$1000 plus shipping for it. This is the second K2 I have built.  
Thanks for your time.  
Dave Pomeroy K8DNP SouthWestern Michigan

-----  
Date: Tue, 03 Apr 2001 17:07:20 -0500  
From: Paul Dryer <psdryer@ticnet.com>  
To: na5n@rt66.com  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [95583] Re: Curtis 8044 chip  
Message-ID: <3ACA4997.22F38BD2@ticnet.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Might check Mouser...I think the had it in last years catalog.  
Paul, kd5ivp

"Paul Harden, NA5N" wrote:

> On Tue, 3 Apr 2001, Maxime Prati wrote:  
> > Do a source for the famous Curtis 8044 chip exist on this planet ?  
> > I have one who is blown... I need to replace it.  
>  
> Maxime and others,  
> Two years ago at HamCom, Martin Jue was one of the QRP speakers. He  
> was asked where MFJ gets the now-defunct Curtiss 8044 chips, and he  
> said MFJ bought the licensing rights and has the chips made for MFJ  
> to keep their keyer line going. And, anyone needing a Curtiss 8044  
> can order one directly from MFJ now.  
>  
> Granted, that was the situation two years ago, and don't know if it  
> holds true today with the ease of making keyers with various programmable  
> logic arrays ... but worth giving MFJ a call to find out.  
>  
> 72, Paul NA5N

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:16:08 -0600 (MDT)  
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>  
To: qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca, qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Cc: nmqrp@yahoogroups.com, "Prof. Arnaldo Coro Antich" <inforhc@ip.etcusa.cu>  
Subject: [95584] NASA: SUN UNLEASHES RECORD SUPERFLARE (fwd)  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10104031613370.25727-1000000@shell.rt66.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gang,  
Here's an intra-agency press release you might find interesting on  
yesterday's superflare.  
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THE FOLLOWING RELEASE WAS RECEIVED FROM NASA HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON,  
DC, AND IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION. (FORWARDING DOES NOT IMPLY

ENDORSEMENT BY THE AMERICAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.)

Steve Maran,  
American Astronomical Society

Dolores Beasley  
Headquarters, Washington, DC  
(Phone: 202/358-1753)

April 3, 2001

Bill Steigerwald  
Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD  
(Phone: 301/286-5017)

RELEASE: 01-66

SUN UNLEASHES RECORD SUPERFLARE,  
EARTH DODGES SOLAR BULLET

The Sun blasted one of its largest flares in 25 years from the same region harboring the largest sunspot of the current solar cycle Monday evening.

The region, designated active region 9393, has continued to rotate with the Sun and is no longer in line with the Earth, so most of the flare's energy was directed away from our planet. However, radiation from the flare temporarily disrupted radio communications, and flare-related events generated a storm of high-velocity particles that, in greater numbers and energies, can affect sensitive electronic equipment in space.

"This explosion was estimated as an X-20 flare, and was as strong as the record X-20 flare on August 16, 1989, " said Dr. Paal Brekke, the European Space Agency Deputy Project Scientist for the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO), one of a fleet of spacecraft monitoring solar activity and its effects on the Earth. "It was more powerful than the famous March 6, 1989 flare which was related to the disruption of the power grids in Canada."

Monday's flare and the August 1989 flare are the most powerful recorded since regular X-ray data became available in 1976.

Solar flares, among the solar system's mightiest eruptions, are tremendous explosions in the atmosphere of the Sun capable of releasing as much energy as a billion megatons of TNT. Caused by the sudden release of magnetic energy, in just a few seconds flares can accelerate solar particles to very high velocities, almost to the speed of light, and heat solar

material to tens of millions of degrees.

The flare erupted at 4:51 p.m. EDT Monday, and produced an R4 radio blackout on the sunlit side of the Earth. An R4 blackout, rated by the NOAA SEC, is second to the most severe R5 classification. The classification measures the disruption in radio communications. X-ray and ultraviolet light from the flare changed the structure of the Earth's electrically charged upper atmosphere (ionosphere). This affected radio communication frequencies that either pass through the ionosphere to satellites or are reflected by it to traverse the globe.

The explosion, near the Sun's northwest limb (the upper right in SOHO images), was associated with an eruption of a cloud of electrified gas, called a coronal mass ejection, or CME, into space, but apparently not directed towards Earth.

"We are perhaps lucky that this event didn't occur over the weekend, when the resulting CME would almost certainly have been aimed towards Earth," said Brekke. "A smaller flare-related CME event in March 1989 caused major power failures in Canada, and subsequent smaller events have disrupted communication and navigation satellites."

Solar ejections are often associated with flares and sometimes occur shortly after the flare explosion. CMEs are clouds of electrified, magnetic gas weighing billions of tons ejected from the Sun and hurled into space with speeds ranging from 12 to 1,250 miles per second. Depending on the orientation of the magnetic fields carried by the ejection cloud, Earth-directed CMEs cause magnetic storms by interacting with the Earth's magnetic field, distorting its shape and accelerating electrically charged particles (electrons and atomic nuclei) trapped within.

Severe solar weather is often heralded by dramatic auroral displays, northern and southern lights, and magnetic storms that occasionally affect satellites, radio communications and power systems. The flare and solar ejection has also generated a storm of high-velocity particles, and the number of particles with ten million electron-volts of energy in the space near Earth is now 10,000 times greater than normal. The increase of particles at this energy level still poses no appreciable hazard to air travelers, astronauts or satellites, and the NOAA SEC rates this radiation storm as a moderate S2 to S3, on a scale that goes to S5.

The SOHO project is an international cooperative program between NASA and the European Space Agency for the International Solar Terrestrial Science Program.

For additional information and images regarding the flare, space weather and the giant sunspot, see:

<http://sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/hotshots/X17/>  
<http://www.spaceweather.com/>  
<http://www.sel.noaa.gov/NOAA scales/index.html>  
<http://www.noao.edu/outreach/press/pr01/img0101.html>  
-end-

-----  
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2001 16:29:11 -0600 (MDT)  
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>  
To: qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca, qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Cc: gqrp@onelist.com, nmqrp@yahoogroups.com, "Prof. Arnaldo Coro Antich" <inforhc@ip.etcusa.cu>  
Subject: [95585] Top 10 Solar/Geomagnetic Storms  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10104031041060.24846-100000@shell.rt66.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gang,

Here is a list of the TOP 10 solar and geomagnetic storms recorded with modern instrumentation, as obtained from the Australian IPS site, and other archive information in our observatory library. It's interesting that yesterday's X17 will rank as the 2nd most energetic flare since x-ray records were begun in 1976. Following that is some information on some prior solar cycles and more solar trivia than you knew existed :-)

UPDATE: On 3APR 2001, NOAA has upgraded yesterdays flare from an X17 to an X20.

#### TOP 10 SOLAR FLARES

#### TOP 10 GEOMAGNETIC STORMS

-----  
CLASS DATE & CYCLE NOTES  
1. X20 Aug. 1989 22 (2)  
2. X20 Apr. 2001 23  
3. X15 Mar. 1989 22 (3)  
4. X15 Jul. 1978 21  
5. X13 Apr. 1984 21  
6. X13 Oct. 1989 22

-----  
Ap= DATE & CYCLE NOTES  
1. 280 Nov. 1960 19 (1)  
2. 246 Mar. 1989 22 (3)  
3. 241 Apr. 1960 19  
4. 236 Jul. 1959 19  
5. 230 Sep. 1941 17 (4)  
6. 220 Jul. 1941 17 (4)

7.	X13	Dec. 1982	21		7. 215	Mar. 1946	18	
8.	X12	Jun. 1982	21		8. 205	Mar. 1941	17	(4)
9.	X12	Jun. 1991	22	(5)	9. 203	Oct. 1960	19	
10.	X12	Jun. 1991	22	(5)	10. 202	Feb. 1986	21	

-----

#### NOTES:

- (1) Geomagnetic storms, measured by magnetometers to determine the planetary A-Index, Ap, was started in 1932.
- (2) Ranking solar flares by their x-ray emissions began in 1976.
- (3) The March 6, 1989 flare and subsequent geomagnetic storm caused the Quebec power failure, leaving 6 million people without power for 9-20 hours. Reverse EMF on transmission lines caused a major distribution transformer coil to literally melt.
- (4) Several major geomagnetic storms in 1941 caused radio blackout interference to the war effort, particularly in the Pacific. At this time, the connection to radio blackouts, geomagnetic storms and solar flares was not understood, and certainly not predicted.
- (5) Four X12 flares all occurred within the month of June, 1991.
- (6) There was an X10 in May 1984 ... 4 years AFTER the cycle 21 maximum!

Of the TOP 25 SOLAR FLARES, only 4 occurred BEFORE the solar maximum.  
This means >80% of the major flares occurs AFTER the solar maximum.

Of the TOP 20 GEOMAGNETIC STORMS, 16 occurred AFTER the maximum (80%)

The MAXIMUM for the current cycle 23 occurred:

Feb. 16, 2001 - based on when the magnetic polarity flipped on the sun.

Mar. 28, 2001 - based on the maximum solar flux of 274 recorded.

(so far, as higher solar fluxes are still possible).

#### FACTS ON PREVIOUS SOLAR CYCLES

=====

CYCLE	DURATION	MAXIMA OCCURRED	PEAK FLUX OCCURRED
17	1933-1943	Apr. 1937 SF=120	
18	1944-1954	Jul. 1947 SF=150	
19	1954-1964	Mar. 1958 SF=200	SF=345 Mar. 1958
20	1964-1976	Nov. 1968 SF=110	SF=255 Feb. 1968
21	1976-1986	Nov. 1979 SF=165	SF=370 Nov. 1979
22	1986-1996	Jul. 1989 SF=160	SF=335 Jun. 1989
23	1996-2006*	Feb. 2001 SF=120*	SF=274 Mar. 2001*

-----

\* Preliminary data on the current solar cycle

SF = solar flux and for "Maxima Occurred" shows the maximum  
30-day AVERAGE for the solar cycle.

NOTES:

- (1) The current solar cycle appears to be closest to cycles 17 & 20.
- (2) The International Geophysical Year (1957) occurred within cycle 19, a period of usually high solar activity.
- (3) The solar maxima of July 1947 probably had nothing to do with the alien craft that crashed at Corona, NM on July 3, 1947, or did it? :-)
- (4) The numbers show that those stories by the "old timers" about the great conditions in the late 50's and mid 60's are actually true!

Well, that's enough solar facts, statistics and trivia any one person can stomach in one sitting for now -hi.

72, Paul NA5N  
National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO)  
VLA and VLBA Radio Telescopes  
Socorro, New Mexico

The above information was compiled and posted privately and does not imply endorsement by the NRAO.

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End of QRP-L Digest 2148

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